

UTILISATION OF COAL DUST.

BARKER'S PATENTS.

THE LONDON PATENT COAL COMPANY (LIMITED)
having arranged with the patentee for the exclusive right to these patents within the United Kingdom, desire to call the attention of coal owners, ironmasters, and others, to the value of the invention by which the waste and small coal can by a simple and inexpensive process, be rendered available for all the ordinary uses of the coal from which it is derived.

A series of careful experiments have been made on the Monmouthshire Rail-way with fuel manufactured from the Risca Black Vein Coal (small) in locomotives working heavy mineral trains over severe gradients, by which it has been ascertained that increased duty was obtained from the fuel over the same coal. The results of these experiments are so satisfactory that Mr. Alex. Bassett, C.E., of Cardiff, has consented to act as the company's representative for granting licences in South Wales, and will be happy to reply to all enquiries and give full explanation respecting the trials that have been made under his superintendence. Mr. Thomas D. Clark, of Birmingham, has also undertaken to represent the company in the Midland Counties, and large works are in course of erection in the Forest of Dean by the company's licensees there.

The company are prepared to grant licences for the use of their patents, and from the success which has attended the manufacture at their own works, and the extraordinary popularity of the fuel for retail purposes amongst the lower classes, they believe that in every populous town a large and highly profitable trade may be carried on.

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EDWIN W. GLOVER, Secretary.

FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

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Original Correspondence.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MINES—No. I.

SIR.—I have not until now had an opportunity of carefully perusing a printed copy of this report. It is really a very important production, and as it is likely to lead to legislation its measures demand a careful discussion from all interested in the working of coal mines, and in the working of the Acts of Parliament relating thereto.

The "No. 10" resolution requires to be very considerably modified before it can be of any practical utility. It is a restriction on the working of mines in non-flooding districts, which the learned committee could never for a moment have intended. Their meaning in passing the resolution is easily perceived, and is highly commendable, but the intention of the honourable committee and the practical effect of such a resolution if made law are very remote from each other.

My present purpose, however, is to deal with the clauses relating to mines inspection. I am really surprised, not at the conclusion to which the committee have arrived on this head, but at the evidence from a consideration of which they framed their 14th resolution—namely, "that the present staff of Inspectors should be increased, with a view to more frequent inspection," &c. However could the committee have been led to such a recommendation after the decided evidence of the Inspectors of Mines as a body? In the letter addressed to the Home Secretary on Jan. 26 by a meeting of the Inspectors, held on the 23d of the same month, the latter expressed themselves as being of an opinion that their present number—twelve—is sufficient for carrying out the Act of Parliament as it now exists: they in this letter disclaim any obligation they are under to act voluntarily or spontaneously in the matter of preventing accidents in coal mines; that, on the other hand, all they should be called upon to do is to "be in the districts," that matters may be referred to them, and inspection be made, and requisite steps taken to enforce the provisions of the law when accidents occur which may be of a nature to deserve their attention. These Inspectors, forsooth, to use the language of one of themselves—

"Do not feel it their duty to visit mines without being summoned in consequence of any accident, or from any complaint, and that they do not go into a mine without a special reason; by going farther than this he would be doing a positive mischief, and better would it be to repeat the Inspection Act altogether. To attempt to penetrate every spot in the underground workings in a colliery, for the purpose of inspection, would do more harm than good."

I exceedingly regret, Mr. Editor, not having before me the statute relating to the duties of Inspectors of Mines, but in all common sense, in all due respect for the intelligence and penetration of our legislators, I cannot for one moment entertain a suspicion that this very senseless and mischievous rendering of the duties of the Inspectors by themselves—or, at least, by some of themselves—could ever have been intended as the spirit and meaning of the Act of Parliament by which these Inspectors are appointed. The select committee, no doubt, with the statute before them, see that such a view of the duties of Inspectors is not consistent with the language of the statute by which their duties and powers are alike defined, mildly state that it is for the Secretary of State to decide whether such a view as the Inspectors themselves take is the correct one or not; but say they, if anything in the way of spontaneous action is required of the Inspectors of Mines, their present numbers are very inadequate to the performance of such a duty, and it is in the belief that such a duty was imposed upon them by the act of 1860, and might be usefully discharged by them, that they recommend an increase of Inspectors.

I cannot for a moment believe that the Inspectors in meeting assembled were unanimous in their decision as to the recommendation or opinion that in numbers they were amply sufficient and competent for the full and effectual work of the Inspection Act; neither can I believe that such an expression of opinion was the honest and conscientious conviction of what is *de facto* the case. I presume that each Inspector is supplied from the Home Office with well-defined and highly authoritative instructions as to what his duties actually are; and it cannot for a moment be supposed that these duties mean nothing more than that the Inspector is to act merely as a coroner on the occurrence of a fatal accident; that after having framed laws for the better regulation of mines, and thereby lessening the amount of accident to the lives and limbs of the workmen, the Government is content that its servants, the Inspectors, shall be simply planted in their different districts, to be sought out and applied to by the workers in mines as occasion may require. An ex-Inspector used to say in his reports that he had visited every mine in his district. The successor to Mr. Morton, in the Barnsley district, is said to be visiting pit after pit in rapid succession; and the Inspector in my own district does, I am confident, act not only spontaneously but promptly in all cases where he has the least suspicion of danger. What, in all conscience, is the use of Inspectors if they are not to act so; how can they be expected to know that the general and special rules at all collieries are being complied with unless this knowledge is obtained by personal inspection? The complaints of men noticed in evidence by the committee are stated to be very few, and this, indeed, is what myself, or anyone acquainted with the working of mines, would expect. In the first place, men are naturally disinclined to make any complaint in any way implicating their masters and employers; and, secondly, how can we reasonably suppose that workmen, confined as they are to their working places in the colliery, are likely to know whether or not all the rules and regulations appointed under the Inspection Act for the safety of the colliery are properly carried out. Old wastes must be travelled daily, to see that proper air courses are maintained, and an adequate amount of ventilation daily supplied, so that no accumulation of fire-damp may be permitted.

In every hewer in the pit likely to know that this necessary supervision is daily attended to? And thus we might enumerate all the particulars comprehended by and alluded to in the general and special rules of every colliery in the United Kingdom, and truthfully and forcibly annex a similar query. Calculations have been frequently indicated in the Journal demonstrative of the physical impossibility of such an inspection of mines by the present number of Inspectors as was intended by the statute of 1860. As to the ridiculous absurdity of Inspectors acting as viewers, or incurring thereby any responsibility to themselves, or to the Home Office, the question is really unworthy of the merest consideration by colliery owners, viewers, and all practically acquainted with the working of collieries. The duty of the Inspector is plainly to see that the sanitary and other provisions of the Act of Parliament are properly carried out. As to plans of working coal, or methods or systems of any kind, coming properly under the authority and direction of the colliery manager, with these the Inspector has nothing to do: at the same time, if the Inspector is, as he ought to be, a person properly qualified by practical experience and by scientific and general knowledge of his duties as inspector, all managers or owners of collieries will be only too glad to avail themselves of the benefits of conversations with the Inspector on matters of great peril and hazard in connection with the working of their mines; but to say that an Inspector would be in any way responsible for what might follow such conversations is an absurdity so palpable that I care not to spend time and paper in any other way than that of a mere allusion to it. An old saying is, "In the multitude of councillors there is wisdom," and I am firmly convinced that any assistance that Inspectors may be able to give, either by way of expression of opinion or suggestion, would be well received at most collieries. Apart from this, the Inspector, in fact, is a mere policeman, and his attainments in "mining science" are of no practical utility. It is not, Mr. Editor, the large and well conducted, and even most dangerous collieries in the country, where any effect of extension of the Inspection Act is feared; in all such places every kind of arrangement for the safe working of the colliery is carried out under the superintendence of ably qualified viewers. Where, in such cases, violations of law are met with they are rare exceptions to the general rule of strict observance, yet I maintain that even here inspection is necessary, as a guarantee to the public as well as to the miners, that all rules and regulations for the safety of the latter are efficiently observed.

It is, however, in the, at present, very numerous collieries having a kind of hand-to-mouth existence where efficient inspection is most needed and dreaded. In districts where such mines are situated I have myself seen the effects of bad ventilation, as exhibited by the difficulty in maintaining candlelights in working places, and by the haggard, unhealthy appearance of the men at the surface. Not long ago, in a case of this kind, men were actually lashed to the rope in a bucket before starting their ascent from the bottom of the pit, lest, from the effect of working for hours together in black damp (CO₂), they should, during their ascent to the surface, be so overcome with giddiness as to lose their hold and fall to the bottom of the pit. Another instance, coming under my own personal observation, is where the ventilation of deep workings was made to depend upon the volition of air, if the expression may be allowed, to descend and return without any means, such as doors or stoppings, to convey it to the working places. Again, of my own personal knowledge, an Inspector has insisted upon an increase in the strength of plumber-blocks for the winding-machinery, and has himself carefully examined a rope during its unwinding from the machinery into the pit, for the purpose of inspecting its condition, so that he might satisfy himself that a new rope for safety was not requisite. How, then, can Inspectors at present declare that their duties are only those imposed by reports from workmen, or when other causes of necessity for their interference operate. It does most forcibly appear to me that the instructions to Inspectors, as at present issued from the Home Office, require more clearly to be set forth, as from the evidence quoted, and much more from the evidence which I have not quoted, but which, nevertheless, appears in the printed proceedings of the select committee, that the Inspectors themselves are allowed to define what their own duties are, or, to say the least, what they ought to be. To conclude, I am of opinion, and I think a majority of those engaged in coal mining pursuits will agree with me, that the present staff of Inspectors is not sufficient for carrying out the spirit and meaning of the Act of Parliament, under which they receive their appointments; and I am strongly inclined to think that their appointments ought to be made to partake more of a competitive character than they do at present.

JAMES GREGORY,

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MINES.

SIR.—In last week's Journal appears a letter from one who signs himself a "Butty," which, if rightly given, agrees with all "the Committee on Mines" recommend, and then proceeds to demolish all their recommendations—so far as he can. The letter is one that should give the writer a place in the Temple of Fame if he were only to be known out of his own sphere as "Butty." In it he says that the "miners admitted that their real object in asking the females to be put from the pit banks was to lessen the supply of labour, that the men's wages might be increased." This, as one interested, I totally deny, and ask of the "Butty" to point out whenever such was admitted by the men. There is not more than 6000 or 7000 females engaged above ground altogether about the mines of England, Scotland, and Wales. These spread over the mining districts would not diminish the average of wages by the most finite fraction, suppose they were all to be removed to-morrow. Besides, the complaints were made by the miners, not by any that worked above ground; the miners do not feel they have anything in common with the men that work on pit banks. The "Butty" says the late Mr. Mackworth gave safety such as we will not soon see his like again. Then "Butty" follows this up by saying that Mr. Dickinson, Inspector of Mines, is quite beloved by the men of his district. Will "Butty" only give the name of the place in Mr. Dickinson's district where this is so? Will he tell the parts of the district he is over that know him at all? As one that knows something of the miners of Mr. Dickinson's district, I beg to assert that were he to be appointed by the suffrages of the miners' next meeting, out of the 23,000 miners under him he would not by a ballot get 250 votes. Let "Butty" go meet the men in their hundreds and thousands, and hear what they say. "Beloved" forsooth! Has the head and the ears of the "Butty" been enveloped in something that sounds could not reach, and objects could not be seen for this some years past, that he makes such an assertion? What has meetings of thousands of men at Bolton, at Farnworth, Kersley, and Oldham said on this subject; was it that Mr. Dickinson was beloved?—No.

Again, he says that the men did their best to get Mr. Moore appointed. True, but why? Mr. Moore had written a book, which showed a very intimate knowledge with the

1-10th, I believe; very high terms for these mines, where all is profit to the landowner. I have invariably found that an outlay of 20,000*l.* invested in this country will equal ten times the amount laid out in foreign mines, it matters not what the mineral is.

Brighton, Aug. 21.

ONE INTERESTED IN MINES.

SLATE TRADE IN NORTH WALES—No. III.

SIR.—The slate formations in the Principality are well worthy the increased attention which is now being given to them. It is scarcely possible to conceive of a field possessing such immense resources for rewarding the use of money as is open to enterprising capitalists in the slate trade of North Wales. Capital conjointly with labour, directed by an agency eminently *practical*, cannot fail to give satisfaction in developing those very valuable deposits. This remarkable enterprise in some instances (notwithstanding its incalculable treasures) has suffered both practically and commercially; but this has been caused principally in consequence of its having been vaguely considered and improperly handled. Wealth to the value of millions sterling will yet be realised by the production and sale of slates from deposits of this valuable commodity hitherto undeveloped. It often happens that incompetency in management offers as a sett-off against error in judgment, &c., that "wages have advanced." I have been often told that quarrymen get too high wages, and in many instances this is true. There is a class of men who get much more than they deserve: they too often succeed in obtaining bargains at a poundage that will yield them from 25*s.* to 30*s.* per week, simply because their neighbour (who, by the way, is a more able workman) is accustomed to earn that amount. The workmen are not unconscious that slate prices are advancing, therefore they think this a good reason for them to expect an increased consideration in the shape of an advance in their wages. It is a great mistake to suppose that by letting "bargains" to the men at an inadequate price the returns in the monthly statements will be thereby improved, or that the shareholders will be particularly benefited. In fact, from an experience of upwards of 30 years as quarryman, manager, and proprietor, I know that the advantages are the greatest when the workman is well paid for his labour. The question now arises, What is a fair remuneration for workmen's services? To which I answer that in this, as in every other art, their pay should be in proportion to their *tact* and accomplishments for manufacturing the slate rock entrusted to them. There is a surprising contrast in the capabilities and skill of the operatives employed upon this branch of industry, which is not sufficiently understood. The amount of slates returned from each "bargain" will greatly depend on the abilities and knowledge of the parties engaged upon it, an all-important item, clearly demonstrating the necessity of an efficient management. A looker-on might imagine that any person could blast the rock, and soon learn the art of "cleaving" it, considering the apparent ease with which the rock is divided by the "splitter" into slates of required thickness; but to divide the rock according to the lineality of the grain requires an intimate acquaintance with its flexibility, &c. The "pliancy" in the grain of slate rock differs very considerably, therefore men skilled in the art of "splitting" one kind of rock often find themselves at a loss on changing to a quarry where the divisionality of the grain is different from what they have been accustomed to work. Perhaps I should here remark that in this respect a great contrast exists, as a rule, in every quarry, and often in the same vein, therefore we are necessarily brought to perceive the importance of placing *experienced* agency at the head of quarry operations.

The appointments of the operatives should be in accordance with their abilities for treating the several descriptions of slate rock in the manner most conducive to its profitability. Nothing can compensate for error in this particular, as the profit and loss account will be governed by it in the highest sense. Men highly efficient in the "cleavage" art will return from twentyfold and upwards more in slates from the same quantity and quality of rock than their less fortunate co-workmen. This difference in judgment and workmanship will apply to those engaged in quarrying the slate rock from the bed or vein, as well as to those employed on its various stages of manufacture. None but really practical men can fully realise the force of the foregoing remarks. I imagine that enough has been said here to enlighten parties who may be interested in quarry-work financially, and, therefore, hope that the more skilful workmen will be encouraged by receiving a just recompence as a reward for their hard-earned acquaintance with this particular business. Considering the prices obtained for slates, I think the wages should be 25*s.* per week for *good hands*, that is for "rockmen," "splitters," and "dressers;" supposing this to be the *standard* pay, those possessed of extra tact will invariably earn 25 per cent. more, whilst those who make but slow progress will not, or should not, exceed from 18*s.* to 20*s.* per week. In truth, considering the great loss sustained pending the manufacture of the slate rock (by men that should be engaged on other work), their services are really dear at any price. Another important matter should not pass unnoticed—that the greater portion of the slates made by unqualified parties are not properly divided in the "block," consequently the proportion of *second* quality is large, and, therefore, the proprietor is a sufferer in a great degree, as everyone knows that any commodity of a *second* quality has to be disposed of at a *second-rate* price. The most effectual remedy for the inaptitude and wasteful habits of the less accomplished workmen would be to let the best "rock bargains" monthly to those who make the largest returns of best slates from the smallest quantity of rock of the same size and quality. This principle would prove a stimulus, as, were it acted upon, indifferent parties would lose their "bargain" when it improved, and take to it again when it became less favourable. Unfortunately, it is the rule for each party to retake the same "bargain" (regardless of their general fitness) at the monthly letting, however much it may militate against the proprietor.

Tremadoc, Aug. 21.

JOSEPH KELLOW.

THE PROGRESS OF MINING—AS A SCIENCE, AND SOURCE OF COMMERCIAL WEALTH—No. XI.

SIR.—My object in speaking a word of encouragement for mining is less to promote the advancement of it in particular places, than to advocate it as a general or universal benefit to the world. But I am not sorry that Mr. Ennor has cast a doubtful glance, with his prophetic eye, on Wales, and alluded to the Lisburne Mines, in Cardiganshire, in particular. Mining can never suffer by any strength of light that is brought to bear on those mines to which Mr. Ennor takes exception, and why? Because with them before his eyes his warning note would not take the proper dolorous tone. There would be too much sunshine in the picture. In reality, the Lisburne Mines, instead of being a single exception to a rule, are a number of mines occupying a large tract of country, of many square miles in area—forming, in fact, a better sample of the general character of the country than any solitary example on which to found a condemnation of its mines as a whole. The Lisburne Mines stretch across the mining district of Cardiganshire from south to north, from the River Mawddach, near Faw Rhos, to Frongoch, near the Devil's Bridge, a distance on the meridian of five to six miles. The estate is traversed from east to west by five large metalliferous lodes, the northernmost of which is Frongoch lode, on which there are two mines opened, that of Frongoch and that of Graigoch; the second lode is Logylas, on which are opened two mines, East and West Logylas; the third is Penygeist; the fourth Glogfach; and the fifth and southernmost Glogfawr, all holding good mines, occupying from 12 to 15 square miles of country. Up to Midsummer last, from the commencement, in 1854, these mines have paid profits to the shareholders of 195,800*l.* upon a total outlay of 7500*l.* of which 5000*l.* went to pay for the grants and machinery, and 2500*l.* was employed as working capital. Mr. Ennor, therefore, is wise, when he wishes to depreciate the mining value of a country, to ignore such a set of mines as these, as they do not look like much poverty in the rocks there. Being established, also, for 20 years speaks of permanency as to security. "But," says Mr. Ennor, "there are a number of mines in that country making calls." Well, if this be a good reason for condemning mines 30 years ago, when the shareholders were contributing funds to open them, this argument might have equally as well been applied against the Lisburne Mines as it is now against the younger mines opening in the district; these mines, in my estimation, constitute the hope, and not the death warrant, of Cardiganshire.

From the dividend mines named by Mr. Ennor, I take it that his

remarks are principally directed against Cardiganshire, in which I think he says there are 100 mines making calls. I do not know whence he derives his information; I find only eight of the Cardiganshire mines marked in the Progressive List, all of which are making considerable returns; while in the Dividend List, which he says he has taken from the Journal, he has omitted two—South Darren and Bronfloyd, and treated the Lisburne Mines, which are really seven, as if they had been only one. Everybody has a right to wheel his own barrow, and, no doubt, Mr. Ennor is shrewd enough to suspect that his own interest would be benefited if he could succeed in mystifying the shareholders in the Cardiganshire Mines as to the value of their own property. Mr. Ennor's letter says to them, in other words, "Gentlemen, if you have any doubt as to the mines in which you are engaged send for me, and for a small sum I will give you a clear insight into the nature of your property." I fear it is playing this game of inoculating mining investors with want of confidence that has led to so much misery and want amongst the working population of Cornwall, and that is still desolating its industrious element; but when the wolf has desolated one region he must fly to another. I hope, however, that this ill-omened croak will bode no great evil to Cardiganshire, but that shareholders will manfully do their duty, and carry out the trials in the mines in which they are engaged to a legitimate end. In nine cases out of ten I have found it to be the case that where inspectors are called in to over-rule managers, or the affairs of companies are submitted to committees of investigation, the real business of the companies, no matter how healthy they may be, will not save them from having their fate sealed, and the floor from being thoroughly cleaned by the new broom. My advice to mining investors is to stick to their interest, and mind their own affairs, never being led by the kind-hearted suggestions of what Mr. Spurgeon calls the 2*1*d. prophets. M. F.

HISTORY OF MINING—No. IX.

SIR.—In my recent letters I endeavoured to prove that the progress of mining and of civilisation is identical; that the rapid advance of society in remote antiquity depended upon the discovery and successful working of metals, and that the decline of States, and deterioration of races, were marked by a recession in mineral discovery, and the artifice of metals. During the gloom of the middle ages little was done, by what may be called the Gothic-Roman Empire, in mining. The zeal for discovery, and the art of using metallic substances, which characterised the world in earlier ages, faded almost away, and as a result barbarism increased in most places, and remained unmitigated everywhere. The conquests of the Saracens and Turks not only subjugated the Eastern Empire, but checked the advance of civilisation, and we accordingly find throughout their long reign in all the countries which they vanquished an almost entire cessation of mining, except as at more modern dates Western Europeans, and the ideas of Western Europe, have penetrated the circle of Mahomedan superstition, intolerance, and repression of thought.

Spain is a striking exemplification of the fact that mining enterprise and civilisation go hand in hand. In the ages when she was wealthy and powerful she was active in the discovery and working of gold, silver, and some other metals, and (as I proved) her coinage circulated throughout the world. Her decline has been marked by an absence of mining enterprise, and, except in certain descriptions of jewellery, a decline of skill in the working of all metals.

Great Britain also illustrates this truth. The progress of our country has been singularly marked by the advance of mining. The most ancient of the Britons were most powerful in the extreme South, where mines were first worked, and tin constituted so acceptable a basis of Oriental commerce. The Cornish Britons possessed roads, carriages drawn by horses, ships, and exchanges or places of great commercial intercourse, when the more Northern Britons were but little advanced in civilisation, and when the Gallic neighbours of both did not use draught horses, had few roads, no ships deserving the name, and no great centres of commerce, so far as authentic history enables us to express a judgment. The Saxons and Danes in Britain neglected mining, although the Romans, in their higher civilisation, had left behind them sufficient proofs of superior enterprise, and so good an example. The Normans showed more care for the matter than their kindred invaders, but intestine and foreign wars, feudal oppression, and the ambition of power which characterised their advent, reign, and even declining influence, left little opportunity for cultivating the arts of peace. With the revival of mining arose the new era of British wealth and power. Our mines, including all sorts, metallic and non-metallic, were really the means of founding that navy which swept the seas of every enemy, from the wars about pepper with Dutch and Portuguese in the Eastern seas, to the bombardments of Odessa and Sebastopol. There is no reason to believe that England, or the world, would have the advantage of railroads but for mining and miners. Who invented the railway system? A poor Northumbrian miner! Some dispute this, and attribute the discovery to a Cornish mining engineer. For what did either of these men desire the railroad? The first in order to convey coal from the pit's mouth to the Tyne, the Weir, or the large towns of Northumberland and Durham; and the latter for the conveyance of Cornish metallic produce from the mines to its proper depositories. George Stephenson's ideas and ambition were at first directed to the more speedy, cheap, and abundant conveyance of coal from the pit to its customary destination. He afterwards saw the advantage of the system for conveying passengers, mails, expresses, light parcels, cattle, provisions, &c. So that our cheap postage, our well-stocked markets in large cities, and especially in the metropolis, our administration of justice by the more ready pursuit of delinquents, and all the advantages of facile and swift communication, had their germ in the necessity of the mine, recognised by the genius, and worked out by the enterprise of a very poor pitman.

Indeed the invention and perfection of the steam-engine itself had an important connection with the progress of English mining. The invention sprung up in a mining district, where the requirements of the manufactory were not regarded as comparable in importance with that of the mine and the furnace. The importance of the invention for unwatering, for raising great weights to the surface, &c., is as great as for turning the wheels of the vast machinery which revolve under its mature power. In connection with the steam-engine the carrying trade by sea is revolutionised; passengers pass from port to port within a definite time, troops are transported with rapidity from the centres and seats of power to the extremities of empires, and to the most distant regions of the globe; and the most terrible engines of war the world over saw sit grimly on the waters which begirt our island home, ready to pass against an enemy with the speed and certainty which steam only could supply. Thus, what at first was regarded as important for pumping a mine, or raising its contents, has become one of the most powerful material powers upon the earth. There is no department of science or art in England which has not advanced by the aid of mining. The machinery requisite for the most ponderous and the most delicate manufactures alike comes mainly from the mine, the forest is made tributary to but a small extent now. The tints and dyes of the print-yards of silk, cloth, and cotton owe their beauty to a large extent to the homely looking matter that is brought from the mine, although the vegetable world still supplies the dyer and the house or ship painter with some of their hues. The artist also derives from the mines means of marking, in colours of truth and beauty, the objects of nature, or the ideal of his own conceptions. The physician finds supplies for the *materia medica* in mineral substances. The surgeon is aided in the most responsible and dangerous operations by the hardness, polish, point, inflexibility, flexibility, or other qualities of the mineral substances of which his instruments are formed. We use the metals, even the humbler ones, still as coinage; perhaps in a more advanced civilisation other means may be adopted as media of currency. Thus, turn our eyes upon the civilisation of England in whatever direction we may, mines, mining, and miners stand in the front rank associated with it.

Ever since the revival of mining discovery, industry, and adventure, England has grown in commerce, wealth, and power. She feeds her own furnaces and engines, sheathes her ships with her own copper, and builds them with her own iron, and fabricates from the bowels of her own rich realm the tools and the engines which change the forms of so many substances, erect so many structures, and fabricate so many articles of utility and beauty; and for all this she finds the moving power in the vast carboniferous treasures of which Prov-

idence made her the richest storehouse in the world. England is the most singular country on the globe, in a geological point of view. In all other lands there are formations of particular characters over greater or less ranges, but England is an epitome of the geological world. Here almost all formations may be seen within a limited zone from east to west, so that students of the science, who wish practical observation, come hither from all lands. Thus scope and opportunity were given to us to turn Nature to account, and work with her to a more elevated civilisation, wider influence, and sterner power. Accordingly as England wrought her fields of coal and iron, &c.; and *these uses* brought out her practical aptitudes, her intellectual capacities, her indomitable will, and rewarded her with the wealth which fills her multitude of cities with industrious crowds, and makes her capital the metropolis of the world. As mining is, so is the civilisation of ages and nations. This, at all events, we, as a people, cannot ignore. He, therefore, who assists by his skill, energy, and capital in developing this great industry, is adding to the comfort, wealth, and power of the British people, and building up for Britain a still more glorious and lasting renown. T. SPARGO.

Gresham House, London.

DYFNGWM MINING COMPANY.

SIR.—In the common interest of Mining, may I ask you to devote space for the publication of the following report of the extraordinary proceedings, which took place at our meeting on Tuesday? I may add, that all that was required was that attention should be paid to the interests of the proprietors: had the report of the Committee of Investigation been considered, and some necessary information been communicated, the dissentient shareholders would at once have bowed in deference to numbers, and have acted in good faith with the majority.

EX-OFFICIO.

At a meeting of shareholders in this company, held on Tuesday, at the office, 20, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate, the following extraordinary proceedings took place:—

Mr. HADLEY (addressing the reporter): Who are you, Sir? What is your name?—The REPORTER: I am a reporter.

Mr. KELLY: It is in the interests of this company, and of the public generally, that the proceedings of this meeting be reported.—Sir CLAUDE SCOTT: I object to it.—Mr. HADLEY: No person can attend this meeting who is not a shareholder. It has always been held so by the company.—Mr. KELLY: No matter how it has been held by the company. It is unconstitutional and illegal, under the present circumstances, to exclude the reporter.

Sir CLAUDE SCOTT: The shareholders have a right to insist upon being no reporter present.—Mr. HADLEY: At railway meetings they are only admitted by courtesy. I have been present when they have been required to withdraw.—Mr. WHITMORE: I move that the reporter be requested to withdraw.

Mr. KELLY: The meeting is not constituted at present.—Mr. HADLEY: Nor can it be whilst there is a stranger in the room.

Mr. COBB: To constitute the meeting, I will move that Sir Claude Scott take the chair.—Mr. WHITMORE: I second that.—Mr. KELLY: I protest against Sir Claude Scott taking the chair, and for these reasons.—

Sir CLAUDE SCOTT: The same reasons that we had on a former occasion.—

Mr. KELLY: It matters not that they are the same reasons I gave on a former occasion. They are applicable now.

Confusion and interruption here ensued, during which Mr. HADLEY requested the reporter to leave the room, declaring that it was his room, and that the business could not proceed whilst the reporter remained.—To the Reporter: I must request you to leave this room.—Mr. KELLY: It is at your peril to interfere with him.—Mr. WHITMORE interposed that he had seconded the motion for Sir Claude Scott to take the chair.—Mr. KELLY was again about to protest against the motion, when Mr. WHITMORE interrupted by exclaiming, in an excited manner, I protest against any gentleman introducing a reporter here, contrary to our custom, and to the usage of every other similar meeting.

Mr. HADLEY again remarked that it was his room in which they were assembled. He paid for it.—Mr. KELLY: As shareholders of the company, we pay for the use of the room.—Mr. HADLEY: You don't.—Mr. COBB: He (Mr. Kelly) wants to overbear us.

Several now spoke at once, and subsequently Mr. KELLY gained a hearing, when he spoke, as follows:—This meeting has before it a resolution that Sir Claude Scott do take the chair. I object to that resolution, and now proceed to state my reasons. I doubt not Sir Claude Scott possesses many estimable qualities, and I do not derogate from them. But this I do say—Sir Claude Scott has compromised himself in regard to the confidence of the shareholders of this company, in that whereas on May 24 he was accessory to the appointment of a committee for the investigation of the affairs of the company, before a fortnight had elapsed he lent himself to help to quash the committee of investigation, and to wind up the company! There are some offences washed white by frequency, but I hold this to be an offence against usage and propriety, altogether without precedent, therefore, on this ground I object to Sir Claude Scott taking the chair.

In reply to a remark by Mr. COBB, Mr. KELLY said he was not overbearing, nor would he be overborne.—Mr. COBB wished someone to move that the reporter be not permitted to remain.

Amidst further confusion, Sir Claude Scott took the chair, when Mr. KELLY moved that it is expedient that the proceedings of this meeting, in which the company generally are interested, be reported, and that, therefore, the reporter be permitted to remain and execute his office.—Mr. BEGBIE seconded this.—Mr. WHITMORE moved, and Mr. COBB seconded, that the reporter be asked to leave the room.

Sir CLAUDE SCOTT put Mr. Kelly's motion, for which Mr. Kelly, Mr. Begbie, and Mr. Young voted. For Mr. Whitmore, Mr. Hadley, and Mr. H. J. Jun.

Other desultory remarks ensued, during which Mr. Hadley, Jun., held the reporter's note book, erasing some of his notes.

Mr. KELLY finally, amidst great clamour, read the following protest, signed by himself and Messrs. Begbie and Young:—

"20, St. Helen's-place, Aug. 20.—A reporter having attended this meeting, to report the proceedings in the interest of the shareholders generally, and those shareholders who are endeavouring to wind up the company having carried a resolution for his exclusion, contrary to all justice and propriety, we, the undersigned shareholders, protest against the proceeding of the meeting, and now withdraw, declaring the conduct of the same to be illegal."

During the reading of this document, a shouting was kept up by the opposition party, who vainly tried to prevent Mr. Kelly being heard. When he came to a close, he delivered the paper to the Chairman, accompanying it with another general protest against the object of the meeting, such as was presented at the former meeting of the shareholders. The dissentient appeared to be acting on legal advice. The last-named protest was in these words—certainly not of light import:—"As shareholders in the Dyfngwm Mine, we hereby renew our protest against the registration of the company as an invalid procedure, under the circumstances, and we also protest against any measure that may be taken to wind up the company. We further put on record our conviction that to declare such measure to be advisable, whilst the report of the investigation committee, appointed on May 24, has not been even discussed, is to proceed in the dark, and to endeavour to force on the shareholders a foreign conclusion to the prejudice of their property, and to the concealment of the gross mismanagement of the same by the finance committee."

Upon the handing in of these two protests, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Begbie, and Mr. Young withdrew from the room with the reporter. An injunction against the dominant party will be now applied for, we hear, without delay. Certainly, so far as facts have transpired, the conduct of the finance committee, to whose appointment they were a party, their endeavour to wind up the company *in the dark*, as it were, and the exclusion of the reporter to let in light on the subject, by a record of the proceedings—these facts are *prima facie* against the finance committee. They give to mining operations an *underground* aspect, in another sense than the literal one.

MINING IN WALES.

SIR.—Might I ask Mr. Nicholas Ennor in what part of the United Kingdom he supposes Minera Mine, Talgarth Mine, Maes-y-Safn Mine, Nant-y-Mwyn Mine, the Van Mine, Dyllyne Mine, and the Anglesea Copper Mine to be situated? They are usually supposed to be in Wales, and among them are the most profitable mines in Great Britain. He seems to imagine that the Principality is co-extensive with the county of Cardigan.

J. R. B. KEANE.

Bridgewater Chambers, Brown-street, Manchester, Aug. 19.

CORNISH PUMPING ENGINES.—The number of pumping-engines reported for July is 23. They have consumed 1667 tons of coal, and lifted 13.0 million tons of water 10 fms. high. The average duty of the whole is, therefore, 52,600,000 lbs., lifted

Meetings of Mining Companies.

THE MID-WALES LEAD MINING COMPANY.

The recent successful introduction of this enterprise induced a desire on the part of those interested in the promotion to afford all who had become associated with it an opportunity of personally examining the property, and thus to acquire on the spot every available information upon the resources of the district, as bearing upon the mineral capabilities of their own mine; and certainly the marked success of the whole proceeding fully attested the way in which it was appreciated by all concerned. Hitherto, that which may be designated the Mid-Wales mining district, although comprising within its limits several productive mines, has laboured under the great disadvantage of an absence of railway communication; but the opening of the Mid-Wales Railway has imparted an impulse to the employment of capital in the development of the mineral resources of this heretofore comparatively neglected district. The Mid-Wales Lead Mines (or Cwm Fron and Altifus) have up till now formed a part of the successful Brynpostig sett, and the shareholders in the Brynpostig Company have expended a considerable amount of capital on that portion of their property. As the vendors have agreed to accept as purchase money paid-up shares for nearly the whole of the amount, it is certain that they are quite content to depend upon the result of its future development for a return upon their outlay.

Among those who visited the mines on Monday last were Colonel Boulderson (Madras army), Chairman of the Mid-Wales Lead Mining Company; Mr. Job Taylor, of Dixon's Green, Dudley, Chairman of the Brynpostig Lead Mining Company, and director of the Mid-Wales Lead Mining Company; Mr. William James Lindsay (Messrs. Grant, Kemshead, and Co.), London; Mr. Joseph Nightingale (late of H. M. Civil Service), London; Mr. H. Crump, of Piccadilly, director of the Paraguassu Steam Tramroad Company (Limited), directors of the Mid-Wales Lead Mining Company; Mr. Samuel Harley Kough, solicitor, Shrewsbury; Rev. L. R. Jacob, of Llanfair, Montgomeryshire; Rev. Thompson Stoneham, vicar of Kettley, Shropshire; Mr. W. C. Bew, of Liverpool; Capt. John Kitto (manager of Brynpostig and Mid-Wales Mines), Shrewsbury; Captain S. Kitto (resident manager at Brynpostig Lead Mine), Llanidloes; Mr. James Frost, ironmaster, Dudley; Mr. John Owen, solicitor, Dudley; Mr. John Pearson, jun., Stourbridge; and Mr. A. Ross (Messrs. Ross and Co., sharebrokers), Nicholas-lane, London, &c. A careful inspection of the underground workings was made by the party, and the large piles of rich lead ore attracted great attention.

At the meeting, which was held after the visit to the mines, it was unanimously agreed that Col. BOULDERS (as the chairman of the Mid-Wales Lead Mining Company) should occupy the chair; and Mr. JOB TAYLOR (of Dudley) was voted to the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN expressed, on behalf of the directors of the Mid-Wales Company, their perfect satisfaction with the result of the day's proceedings. The merest tyro in mining could not fail to have seen that, with the judicious expenditure of a comparatively small amount of capital, in addition to that which had been so successfully expended by the Brynpostig Company, the discoveries which had been made would be profitably continued. There were so many present, however, who could communicate valuable and interesting information as to the mineral capabilities of the district, and more particularly of the value of the property in which all present were immediately concerned, that he would for the time content himself by expressing the pleasure the directors of the Mid-Wales Company felt in being in a position to state that the intrinsic value of the property in every way far exceeded their most sanguine expectations.

Mr. S. HARLEY KOUGH said he might inform his co-adventurers he came into this neighbourhood prospecting a few years since, and having visited Cwm Fron (now Mid-Wales), and then the property of the Brynpostig Company, he determined to take an interest in it. The lode discovered produced some 2 to 3 tons of ore per fm., and the reason it was not followed, although it was opened out the lode gradually improved, was because the water increased so rapidly upon them. As the gentlemen present had that day seen, a deep adit had been driven to intersect the lode at a deeper point. Three important lodes had been proved to exist, and two of them were of an exceptionally favourable character. All he could say was that his confidence in the mine was exceedingly great; and he trusted, as he believed, they would be rewarded for their enterprise in continuing its development.

Capt. JOHN KITTO (the manager) said it afforded him great pleasure in meeting upon this occasion the several influential gentlemen he saw around him. He had long held it to be an important feature in connection with the initiatory proceedings of any mining enterprise that those who had become associated with it should have an opportunity of personally examining the property, so that, guided by the information they could thereby gain, they were able to form for themselves an opinion as to the value and capabilities of the undertaking. (Hear, hear.) He did not mean to say that upon the present occasion they met under no ordinary circumstances. He had several times met parties of a similar description—that is to say, upon the commencement of the development or re-development of mines, but he was free to confess that on no one occasion had he met any body of gentlemen under such favourable circumstances as at the present time. (Hear, hear.) Much had been said and written about mines in and about the Llanidloes district; some had theorised that they would not make rich in depth, while others held an entirely opposite opinion; but if they looked around them for a radius of three miles, they would find that so far as was developed the lodes had borne, and were continuing to bear, in depth. But it was to be remembered that the district had heretofore laboured under great and peculiar difficulties and disadvantages, owing to the want of available railway facilities, which had not only acted as a check to the development of its mines, but had materially increased the expenditure in connection with those in operation, by which they had been adversely affected as compared with other mining districts. The result of his investigations during the past two or three years had led him to the conclusion that this at present comparatively untried district would, when developed to the extent that its merits warranted, prove to be equal to any lead district in the Principality. (Hear, hear.) The Pant-y-Clawdd and other mines had returned immense profits, and although the Bryntall had not done so, it certainly was not the fault of the mine, but rather of the tardy way in which the operations were conducted. Then, there were the Van Mines, which were returning 80 tons of ore per month, and there was no doubt that when sunk below the adit level the returns would be considerably increased, those now made being returned from and above the adit level alone. Then there was the Brynpostig Mine, where there had been a level driven for 500 or 600 fathoms. There was every reason to believe that considerable returns were made from the ground opened out, but as the former workers had no machinery, save wooden pumps, they were unable to continue their operations below the adit level. This mine, he was pleased to say, was opening out very successfully. Ore was being produced in considerable quantities, and of a paying quality. He was quite certain that Brynpostig would soon prove itself to be a great and highly remunerative mine. (Hear, hear.) Mr. KOUGH asked how many fathoms of ore ground had been opened out?—Capt. KITTO replied about 50 fms., which was quite sufficient to justify them in erecting the machinery for a full and vigorous development of the property. Mr. KOUGH asked if the lode had improved between the adit and the lowest point yet reached?—Capt. KITTO said it had increased in value something like one-half, and the deeper they went the more productive the lode became. (Hear, hear.) He would now leave Brynpostig, and refer to the mine whose interest they had this day met to promote, which, although last, was certainly not least. The lode at Brynpostig was rich, but it was not nearly so large or powerful as that at the Mid-Wales Mine. In the shaft at the top of the hill the lode was very large and very productive, and from which large returns of lead had been made. The operations were continued as long as practicable, until the water became so quick, and, not having any machinery, it was decided to commence the deep adit, which had been driven about 100 fms., and at least half that distance had been over ground. In some places it would average from $\frac{1}{2}$ ton to 1 ton per fathom, and in others as much as 2 tons of ore per fathom; and, from the general characteristics and formation of the lode, as seen by the present driving, he had the greatest confidence that it would gradually improve in value as the depth was increased. The course of ore worked at the shaft at the top of the hill was at a very shallow depth, and the object for which the deep adit was started had never yet been attained, which was to reach that bunch of ore. Taking it as a whole, it would average from 4 to 5 ft. wide, and seldom without ore; and there was more than ever reason to believe, from the general prospects and the marked character of the walls of the lode, that it would become more than usually productive in depth, and that the Mid-Wales Mine would be second not only to none in the neighbourhood of Llanidloes, but in the Principality. (Hear, hear.) It might be considered that he had taken a sanguine view of the Mid-Wales Mine, but from his experience he had had in other mines, and comparing those mines with Mid-Wales, he certainly did not think that his opinion was in any way sanguine, for he unhesitatingly believed that within three months after the machinery was erected very respectable returns would be made, sufficient to at least meet the current costs, which, he need hardly say, was a position which very few mines occupied even after they had been some years in operation. (Hear, hear.) Mr. JOB TAYLOR asked Capt. KITTO if the gentlemen present were to understand that within three or four months after the completion of the erection of the machinery returns would be made?—Capt. KITTO said he computed that it would take about three or four months to drive the deep adit up to that bunch of ore which was discovered in the shaft, and when that was done their returns would, of course, be considerably increased, as from the deep adit up to the bottom of the shaft there were at least 50 fms. of ore ground. If it should be as good as represented, which he believed would be the case, there was every reason to believe that very large returns would be made from that bunch alone. (Hear, hear.) And, of course, there would be other bunches of ore discovered of equal, if not of greater, value to those already discovered. In which case the returns would be very considerable. He could only repeat that he fully believed when the Mid-Wales Lead Mines were developed they would prove themselves to be equal to any lead mines in Wales. (Hear, hear.) In reply to questions, he stated that he should propose to the board to erect the same size engine for crushing and pumping as that

at Brynpostig, but he hoped to be able to make it pump, crush, and draw.—Mr. ROSS asked if there was not a level on the other side of the hill, in the Altifus Mine, which was also the property of the Mid-Wales Company?—Capt. KITTO replied in the affirmative, and stated that in that level there was a very strong lode, similar to that in Cwm Fron. Other levels had been driven on another lode, which, although very shallow, yielded spots of ore.—Mr. JOB TAYLOR said some of the ore was an inch thick, perfectly solid, and the lode had well-defined walls. The various branches cut would act as feeders to the main lode.—THE CHAIRMAN said he was sure the gentlemen present would be glad to hear some remarks from Mr. Job Taylor, who had had considerable experience in this and other districts, and by that experience had realised the most successful results. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOB TAYLOR, on rising, was received in the most enthusiastic manner. He said that it afforded him much pleasure in meeting upon the present occasion his co-directors and co-shareholders. Captain Kitto had referred to the time when he first became interested in this district, and he (Mr. Taylor) might inform them that Captain Kitto's first visit was to inspect Brynpostig and Cwm Fron sets, the latter of which was now the property of the Mid-Wales Company. He (Mr. Taylor) had been connected with these mines for many years, and he and the party with whom he was associated determined to work them together. As far as developed Cwm Fron had proved itself to be certainly the better property of the two, and the best evidence of their opinion was that they had made an expenditure of some thousands of pounds for the unwatering of that part which had been worked—a fact which alone showed that they regarded Cwm Fron (now Mid-Wales) as their chief mine; and, moreover, they were perfectly satisfied with that property as far as opened out. There was no doubt that had they, instead of attempting to develop it in the way they began, by means of hand tools and such like appliances, put up proper machinery at the top of the hill, by this time Cwm Fron would have been in a remunerative condition. They began their expenditure in that way, and so continued it, but after all only one of the pipes of ore that had been discovered was, *per se*, quite sufficient to justify the whole of the outlay that had been made; indeed, he had no hesitation in saying that the ore they had seen that day proved that the expenditure was not only justified, but that the result was satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) As stated by Capt. Kitto, the object for which the deep adit was commenced—the reaching of the pipe of ore gone down in the bottom of the shaft—had not yet been attained, but independently altogether of that there was reason to believe that in the intermediate distance three or four other veins of equal value would be met with. Taking these facts into consideration, it was not too much to say that at the present time a accurate idea could be formed as to the amount of profit likely to be realised. (Hear, hear.) When it was first suggested that either Brynpostig or Cwm Fron should be disposed of, a great difference of opinion prevailed among his co-directors. Some strenuously advocated the continuing the development of Cwm Fron—indeed, Mr. Kough, to use his own words, "would sell his coat off his back rather than part with Cwm Fron." (Hear, hear.) On one hand the general opinion among the directors was, that as Brynpostig could be sold at a price, they would rather sell that and go on with Cwm Fron; but on the other hand, as they were quite capable and willing to contribute towards the expenditure of developing Brynpostig without bringing others in, while sufficient had been seen to prove that they had a mine, it was urged that they should take upon themselves the expenditure of something like 8000. So that, rather than that the whole property should be made into what might be called a "market mine," they determined to sacrifice Cwm Fron and work Brynpostig. They had never thought less of Cwm Fron than of Brynpostig; the only thing was they felt that the expenditure of 3000, or 4000, would be necessary, in addition to the 5000, or 6000, in connection with Brynpostig; but, so far as he was personally concerned, he, as the largest shareholder, would rather have found his proportion of the additional capital, and kept Cwm Fron, in connection with Brynpostig, than have parted from it. Such was his feeling with regard to the Mid-Wales Mine. (Hear, hear.) He thought that had they had Capt. Kitto as their agent from the beginning it never would have become the property of the Mid-Wales Company; but, as it was now their property, he had no hesitation in saying that, under Capt. Kitto's management, Cwm Fron would be successfully developed at a reasonable cost. He did not mean if they paid the directors, &c., large sums of money for attendances, but if nobody were paid anything except for what they did, and that what they did was absolutely necessary. (Hear, hear.) If Cwm Fron were conducted on that plan, he had no doubt in the world but that it would soon be brought into a dividend-paying condition. Let the directors do their duty, and show confidence in the undertaking; and let them rest upon the shareholders to vote their remuneration. That was the principle upon which the Brynpostig Mining Company had been conducted, and he should not consent to continue to be a member of the Mid-Wales board unless it were upon a similar understanding, although he was perfectly willing to continue if that principle were adhered to. (Hear, hear.) And he would, moreover, state that so far from selling a share (which was not his practice when he entered into any enterprise), he would rather increase his holding in the Mid-Wales Company. Years ago, as he had already said, he and others began its development, with the impression that they possessed a good thing; and certainly nothing had since occurred to alter that opinion; on the contrary, what they had seen this day not only confirmed that opinion, but induced the belief that it would prove in the end a much more valuable property than the Brynpostig Mine. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. KOUGH said he had carefully perused the Articles of Association, and had much pleasure in stating that the directors' remuneration was to be voted by the shareholders. (Hear, hear.) Mr. KOUGH said that he had carefully perused the Articles of Association, and had much pleasure in stating that the directors' remuneration was to be voted by the shareholders. (Hear, hear.) Mr. KOUGH expressed the greatest confidence in the value of the Mid-Wales Mine. Too much could not be said in favour of directors visiting their property, and satisfying themselves that everything was being properly conducted. His confidence in the Mid-Wales Company had been considerably strengthened by the fact that the gentlemen who had come forward as directors had determined to visit the mine for their personal satisfaction, and to see whether what had been represented to be the case was borne out by facts. He was sure they had seen had more than satisfied them, whether as regards the mineral value of the property or the facilities it possessed of being economically developed. He recollects that some two years since, upon returning from the Isle of Man, he visited the Cwm Fron Mine, when he was particularly struck with the striking and peculiar similarity of the stratification of the ground in Great Laxey and Cwm Fron; and he was now more than ever convinced that, with a comparatively small expenditure of capital, Cwm Fron would prove a great and highly remunerative mine. He fully believed that with the expenditure of not more than about 30000, the Mid-Wales Mine could be made a good dividend-paying property. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOB TAYLOR said it would, no doubt, be satisfactory to the Mid-Wales Company to know how Capt. John Kitto had become associated with mines in this district. Of course they all knew that Capt. Kitto originally was at the Great Laxey Mines, and here he (Mr. Taylor) might mention that, having the same opinion as that expressed by Mr. Owen with regard to the precise similarity of the stratification of Great Laxey and Cwm Fron, he made it his business to go to the Isle of Man; and, after making enquiries, he felt if they could only get Capt. Kitto to periodically visit their mines they would soon be brought into a much better condition. A deputation of Brynpostig directors subsequently visited the Isle of Man, and during a period of three weeks ample opportunities were afforded of seeing how Capt. Kitto conducted his business, how he kept his books, and how he conducted the works at Great Laxey, the result being that he recommended the directors to ask the Great Laxey directors to allow Capt. Kitto to thoroughly inspect the Brynpostig and Cwm Fron once in three months, in order that they might have the benefit of his advice. The answer received from Mr. Dumbell (the Chairman) was that Capt. Kitto should not be allowed to inspect the mines either once in three months, six months, nor twelve months. Thereupon he (Mr. Taylor) went over to the Isle of Man again, and called upon Mr. Dumbell. He (Mr. Taylor) during the conversation which took place, suggested to Mr. Dumbell that to allow Capt. Kitto to inspect other mines might perhaps prove to be beneficial to the Great Laxey Company, inasmuch as not being allowed to visit other mines his knowledge would become merely local and stultified, and he further stated that he (Mr. Taylor) had only to get Capt. 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had then made had, so far as the present workings had been extended, been fully carried out; and he thought that so far as they had gone the works reflected great credit on the management. He (Mr. Cooke) quite agreed with the Chairman that mining could not be looked upon as a certainty; but he thought North Chiverton held out every indication of becoming a great mine, having watched the change in the ground in sinking from the 60 to the 70, and from the 70 to the 80. It must also be remembered that in West Chiverton the character of the ground altered in a precisely similar manner, and it was about the same depth as they were at present that West Chiverton cut rich. They had certainly not got the West Chiverton lode, but it was a parallel one, and but fair to infer from the present appearance that they had every chance of success.

Mr. HAMILTON asked how long it would take to get down to the 103 fm. level?

The CHAIRMAN replied about eight or nine months. The committee hoped that by the annual meeting they would have proved the lode. He might state that on his recent visit to the mine he was accompanied by Mr. Rawlinson, one of the committee, and a large shareholder, and he expressed the greatest satisfaction.

Mr. PETER WATSON was pleased to find that the mine so far had given satisfaction. Previous to identifying himself with the present company he consulted some of the best mining agents in the county, the manager of West Chiverton, Captain Johns, and others, and they all agreed that the mine held out every chance of success, and entertained a very favourable opinion of the result when they got below the 80 fm. level. The sugary spar from that level was very similar to that found in East Wheal Rose and Old Shepherds; and it was quite possible that the lode on which they were now working might prove to be one of the lodes of those old rich mines. He (Mr. Watson) had known the district for upwards of 22 years, and was of the firm opinion that the shareholders would be fully rewarded for their outlay. The mine was surrounded by properties selling for large sums of money, some of which were not half so deep as North Chiverton. Their present engine (almost a new one) was capable of carrying them 50 or 60 fms. deeper, and he could but congratulate his fellow-shareholders on having come into possession of a property, which, in his opinion, ought never to have been abandoned, and which at no distant date he believed would prove a rich mine. The accounts and reports were received and adopted.

Mr. GALSWORTHY asked whether there were any covenants in their lease compelling them to work the western portions of the sett? The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said that he had hoped their solicitor would have been present, who would have answered the question, but he (the Chairman) might state that the whole of the sett, which was a very large one, was granted under one lease, and however desirable it might be to develop the western ground, the shareholders would remember that they started with the intention of proving the lode in their present engine-shaft, to which point all their energies had been directed. This working was considered sufficient to fully satisfy all the covenants of the lease, but if they chose to work the western part it could be done by a line of flat rods from their present engine.

Mr. E. COOKE had heard that that ground was the most valuable portion of the sett. —Mr. P. WATSON said that if the company felt disposed to divide the sett he should be happy to give a fair price for the western portion. —It was then resolved, on a motion from the chair, that the manager's salary be at the rate of £100, per annum, and that 10% per quarter be paid to the committee for their services. —In reply to Mr. Hamilton, the CHAIRMAN said that the committee were not only regular in their attendance, but were really what a committee of a mine should be—thoroughly examining into every detail of the working. He (the Chairman) thought that their anchor had grounded in a good position, and that they possessed the confidence of the shareholders at large. He could assure them that every endeavour should be used to see that the operations at the mine were carried out with vigour, and with the utmost economy. The costs to the present time had been large, but after the present month he thought that they would be found with every material to enable them to see the 93, if not the 103.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

DYFNGWY MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders in this company was held on Tuesday, at which 1654 shares were represented,

Sir CLAUDE E. SCOTT, Bart., occupied the chair.

A stranger, not being a shareholder, was observed to be present, and was requested by the Chairman to withdraw, which request he, at the instance of one or two of the shareholders, did not comply with, whereupon a somewhat acrimonious discussion ensued. Ultimately, a vote for his withdrawal was passed by a large majority. Three shareholders, holding collectively 116 shares, then left the room with the stranger, who was, as they stated, a reporter brought by them. The meeting then proceeded to the business for which it was called, and a special resolution to wind-up the company voluntarily under the Companies Act, 1862, was unanimously passed.

PORR PHILLIP AND COLONIAL GOLD MINING COMPANY.

The extraordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, Bishops-gate-street, on Thursday,

Mr. J. DISTON POWLES in the chair.

Mr. J. H. FIELDER (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the report was taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN said that the directors had the pleasure of meeting the shareholders under improved circumstances; they would see that the yield of gold had increased, and they were inclined to hope that that increase was attributable in a great measure to improved management. In January the results were given to Oct. 1, and since then they have additional figures, which raise the total to 361,347 tons of quartz crushed, and which has yielded a total gold produce of 202,903 ozs., or an average of 11 dwt. 5 grs. per ton. The yield of gold from the quartz has during the last nine months averaged 8 dwt. 7 grs. per ton against the previous 12 months of 6 dwt. 15 grs. per ton. The lowest monthly yield averaged 5 dwt. 9 grs. per ton in January. The highest averaged 13 dwt. 11 grs. per ton in May. The steady improvement in the yield was undoubtedly owing to the better management and working of the mine, now it has come completely under the control of the officers of this company, and the system adverted to in the board's last report of extensively sampling in the mine, which has been vigorously carried out, has resulted in not only an approximate idea of the value of the ground opened out being obtained, but has enabled the mine manager, after consulting weekly, as he now has to do, with the resident director and deputy-superintendent, to set such workings only as will pay cost, but the board are glad to add that by the latest mine report to hand, under date June 18, Mr. Munday, the deputy-superintendent, after his usual weekly inspections, states "that the better quartz has been met with in the regular course of working the ascertained payable ground." The board wish to impress this particularly on the proprietors, because they have had it brought to their notice that certain proprietors had conceived an idea that the good yields were brought about by unfair working of the mine. Nothing can be more fallacious, and the best answer is in Mr. Bland's own words (to whom the current ideas were communicated). The board are glad to be able to report the mine and reduction works all in good order of working, although constant improvements have and are being gradually made out of revenue, without being sensibly felt. The north shaft has been sunk from 464 to 579 feet, and will be down to 620 ft. very shortly. They are glad to say that the quartz passed through and stamped out from these lower depths has yielded most satisfactorily, and the openings out of the cross-cuts at the 517 and 590 feet levels will prove the mine for some years to come. From the experience hitherto obtained from similar reefs at greater depths, both in Australia and California, there seems little or no doubt of good results. The board at the last meeting, with regard to water supply, stated that they trusted the Government water scheme would be carried into operation, they having raised funds here for that purpose; but they regret to state that up to the latest advice no steps have been taken to supply the important mining interests of Clunes. Mr. Bland, feeling this, and knowing that at least two years must elapse from their commencement to the necessary supply being available, and believing that the continuance of this company's operations depended on prompt measures, took the responsibility of securing and bringing in from Birch's Creek an independent supply of 2,000,000 gallons of water per diem on account of this company.

Mr. FREWER enquired how many years the water supply account had been accumulating, expressed his happiness that they were making experiments with sodium-amalgam, and enquired whether the directors sent out orders to Mr. Bland to increase the returns before each meeting, in order to be enabled to give a satisfactory report at the meetings? He had so constantly noticed these periodical fluctuations that he had really felt an inclination to move that their meetings be held quarterly instead of half-yearly. —The CHAIRMAN replied that the water supply question had arisen entirely within the last 12 months, and that the money had not been taken out of their funds, but was borrowed from the bank, and was in course of repayment. As to the use, or otherwise, of sodium amalgam, it was a matter which would be decided by those on the spot. And with respect to the question as to whether the directors sent out orders to prepare for the meetings by increasing the returns, on behalf of himself and his colleagues he repelled the imputation with the utmost indignation, and regretted that any shareholder should entertain such a notion.

The Chairman's statement was received with applause, and Mr. Frewer apologised, by declaring that the intention of his remarks had been misunderstood, and giving a new version of them. After a short discussion, the resolution for distributing the 1s. on account of the tenth dividend was unanimously agreed to, the Chairman observing that this raised the amount repaid to 87½ per cent., or £3,312,10s., since 1859.

In answer to questions from several of the shareholders, Mr. FIELDER stated that the whole of the water rights and works have been secured and effected in a manner which does great credit to the resident director and the staff under him. The outlay, which has amounted to £46,400, was borrowed on the joint companies' account of one of the banks; £11,400, has been repaid already, and the balance will be gradually reduced. This outlay was not only absolutely necessary for the continuance of the works, but will be reproductive also by the revenue obtainable from the neighbouring companies, all of whom are desirous of having a supply from our waste or surplus water. The revenue as yet obtained from only one company is equal to 10 per cent. per annum on the total outlay.

The proceedings terminated in the usual manner.

AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.

The adjourned annual meeting of shareholders was held on Tuesday, at the London Tavern, Bishops-gate-street, for the purpose of taking the votes of the shareholders, by ballot, to decide whether Mr. Cyrus Legg or Mr. Frederick Collier should fill the vacancy in the direction caused by the death of Mr. T. S. Cuthill. The chair was occupied by Colonel PALMER (the Chairman of the board), who stated that favourable accounts continued to be received from the colony of the working of the mines; and Mr. Charles Wharham and Mr. A. Cutbill were appointed to act as scrutineers. The poll was kept open from Twelve to Four, and shortly after its close the scrutineers reported the result to be as follows:—For Mr. Collier, 409 personal votes, representing 2661 shares, and 251 proxies, representing 1880 shares, making a total of 660 votes and 4541 shares. For Mr. Legg, 97 votes in person, holding 495 shares, and 286 proxies, representing 1438 shares, together 383 votes and 1928 shares; thus giving Mr. Collier, who was afterwards declared to be duly elected, a majority of 277 votes and 2613 shares. A vote of thanks was ac-

corded to the scrutineers for their labours, and the proceedings concluded with a similar compliment to the gallant Chairman.

ANGLO-BRAZILIAN GOLD COMPANY.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, Bishops-gate-street, yesterday, Mr. HENRY HAYMER in the chair.

Mr. JOHN E. DAWSON (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the directors and statement of accounts, of which the subjoined are abstracts:—

At the last annual meeting the directors fully anticipated, from Capt. Treloar's reports and the personal statements of Mr. Symons, that on this occasion these expectations have not been realised. The unfortunate war between Brazil and Paraguay has operated most prejudicially against the company, it having been found impossible to obtain the necessary force for efficiently carrying on the works. The information afforded by Capt. Treloar relative to the prospects of the undertaking, is of a highly encouraging nature. During the year a large amount of dead work has been accomplished, and the mines are already in a position to employ 140 borers daily. The accounts have been prepared from April 1 to Dec. 31, 1866, and have been audited by Messrs. Quilter, Ball, and Co. The remittances from the commencement of operations to Dec. 31, 1866, were 40,990 oits., the net proceeds of which were £18,571, 15s. 7d. The receipts and expenditure in England and Brazil for the nine months ending Dec. 31 was—

Dr.—Balance last audit	£ 2,301 16 5
Capital received	5,896 4 0
Gold produce	10,176 17 6
Interest and transfer fees	98 10 0
Sundry creditors	9,050 3 5
	£ 27,525 11 4
Cr.—Sundry creditors, as per last balance-sheet	£ 7,852 0 7
Materials, stock, &c.	4,119 11 9
Passages estate	8,606 3 9
Gold and gold troop expenses	207 17 1
General expenses—England	1,007 17 0
Brazil	209 18 9
Plant, interest, travelling, &c.	479 0 3
	£ 22,582 9 2
Leaving credit balance	£ 4,943 2 2

The chief mining engineer (Capt. Thomas Treloar) writes—“Though my estimates have not been realised this year, yet important works have been accomplished and important results arrived at. The deep adit has been driven to the lode, the Victoria stamping-mill completed, and, though the operations for opening out the mine are not so far advanced as we had expected, yet during the last five months we have, with the daily average of 80 borers, and without the aid of any of the great canoes, made an average monthly profit of £657, after paying all costs both in England and Brazil. If, then, a force of 80 borers raising stone worth only 2½ oits. of gold per ton will give a profit monthly of £657, additional borers will give greater profit in proportion, because the cost of management, erection of machinery, and some other items will remain about the same whether the borers be 80, 100, 150, 200, or 300 daily. The mines are now in a position to employ 140 borers daily, and every year for many years to come a space will be opened to receive constantly-increasing numbers; and this fact, coupled with the improvement which must take place in the standard of the ore, makes all here sanguine as to a long and prosperous future. In Jacutinga mines very large quantities of gold can be extracted by a few hands, but it is otherwise in rock mines. In the latter the conditions essential to success are—great scope, great quarrying force, and great stamping power. I repeat, then, that the plain fact, the incubus of our present position, is the want of force, and until the unfortunate war with Paraguay is over, we shall, in all probability, be cramped in this respect. Once over, however, native labourers—and this class we prefer to all others—will flock here in great numbers. Situated as we are near Ouru Preto, the capital of the province, and the cathedral city of Mariana, the natives like this locality; but at present they are deterred from coming here, believing that recruiting is more rigorous than at a greater distance from these two cities.”

The superintendent (Mr. F. S. Symon) writes that the health of the establishment has, on the whole, been good. The average number of sick daily has been but 2½ per cent. Ten deaths occurred, including one infant and three free Brazilian. The number of hands, slaves and free, is 51 per cent. in excess of last year. Fluctuations in price of provisions have occurred owing to, at times, the heavy state of the roads. The company's troop has been of great service, and they have been enabled to feed the people during periods of scarcity for much less than they could have done had they been dependent solely on this immediate neighbourhood for their supplies.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be remembered that at the last meeting Mr. Symons (the superintendent) was present, who stated that he hoped from the produce then being obtained from the rise above the deep adit that the directors upon the present occasion would be in a position to declare a dividend. That hope, however, had not been realised, from two causes—one was the Paraguayan war, which had caused the operations to be limited, on account of the reduced force under Capt. Treloar's command; and the other was that the average value of the stone had fallen off from something like 8 oits to about 2½ oits. of gold per ton of ore. The result was that instead of being able to declare a dividend, as the directors had anticipated, they were not in a position to state that they were now working at a profit—that is, if they charged such items as the cost of constructing new stamps, building houses, &c., proportionately chargeable to plant account, but even with the reduced value of the stone obtained during last year, if they charged against the returns simply the cost of producing them, or, in other words, placed the value of the returns against the mine cost, the accounts for the past year showed a profit of more than 6000/. The expenditure on that account was something like 9000/, while the total amount received exceeded 15,000/. If they obtained stone of an average yield of not more than 3 oits. of gold per ton, when their stamping-power was in full operation, he believed they would even then work at a profit. Capt. Treloar states—“If, then, a force of 80 borers, raising stone worth only 2½ oits. of gold per ton, will give a profit monthly of £657, additional borers will give greater profit in proportion, because the cost of management, erection of machinery, &c., will remain about the same, whether the borers be 80, 100, 150, 200, or 300 daily.” The mines are now in a position to employ 140 borers daily, and every year for many years to come a space will be opened to receive constantly-increasing numbers; and this fact, coupled with the improvement which must take place in the standard of the ore, makes all here sanguine as to a long and prosperous future.” In another part of his report Capt. Treloar states that “a large amount of dead, unremunerative work has been carried on throughout the past twelve months. In the forthcoming year this will not be the case; for, with few exceptions, our works, instead of being in dead kilas, will be in lode which will yield gold.” When the war had terminated—and those who knew anything about Brazil were of opinion it would be closed very shortly, no further difficulty would be felt with regard to labour, and the operations would be conducted upon a scale that would leave a considerable monthly profit. The cash in hand was sufficient to pay all the drafts of the company up to Nov. 6 next. Having expressed his unabated confidence in the eventual success of the company, he concluded by moving that the report and balance-sheet be received and adopted.

Mr. FOSTER seconded the proposition. The CHAIRMAN, in reply to questions, stated that his own impression was a call would not be required, but it was impossible to say at present. If, however, a call were required it certainly would not be made this year.

The motion adopting the report and balance-sheet was received and adopted. The retiring auditors (Quilter, Ball, and Co.) were unanimously re-elected. The CHAIRMAN, said before the meeting separated he wished to ask the shareholders to pass a vote of sympathy to their worthy manager (Capt. Treloar). It, probably, was not generally known that by the last mail intelligence was received of the death of Capt. Treloar's wife. And while upon that subject, he should like to say a few words about Capt. Treloar. He (the Chairman) had heard all kinds of statements made with reference to Capt. Treloar, but in his (the Chairman's) opinion those statements had been circulated by people who had only interest to serve, and that was their own. In his opinion the shareholders had in Capt. Treloar an honest, upright, and practical man, and one who could not be replaced by a better—indeed, he (the Chairman) much doubted if they would be able to find his equal. He moved—“That this meeting learns with deep regret the sad loss recently sustained by Capt. Treloar, in the sudden death of his wife, and wishes to convey to Capt. Treloar the expression of its most sincere condolence under his trying affliction.”

Mr. HESKETH seconded the proposition, which was put and carried unanimously.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors terminated the proceedings.

[ADVERTISMENT].

From Mr. EDWARD COOKE:—It is with pleasure that I am able to record a slight improvement in the demand for shares in several mines, and I have no doubt that greater activity will prevail in the course of a few weeks, when the holiday season is over, and the public are fairly settled into business again. A most satisfactory feature to notice is the firmness of the metal market, and a rise in the standard for copper ore. I am not aware at the time I am writing what the result of Thursday's sale is, but I fully expect there will be a further advance. As I write this from NORTH WHEAL CROFTY, I am in a position to say something of the prospects of this mine. In the course of a fortnight Ira's shaft will be sunk to the 196, when in a few fathoms only the rich tin ground (as shown on the plan) will be reached. That it is rich may be seen by the winze sinking below the 183 east, now down 4 fms., and worth fully 60/- per fathom. The shareholders are aware that in the 183 a long run of tin ground has been driven through, worth in places 40/-, and up to 60/- per fathom. The prospects of the 196 are, therefore, exceedingly good. There are several other valuable places in operation—viz., ends driving and opening up; it is estimated quite 2000/- worth of ore ground per month, while only about half that quantity is being taken away, and at a profit to the shareholders. An improvement has taken place in the 196 west; the lode is now valued at 20/- per fathom. The prospective value of North Croft Mine is certainly not considered by the public generally, or the shares would stand at double their present price.—NORTH WHEAL CHIVERTON: The position and prospects of this mine were so fully explained by the London manager (Mr. G. Noakes) at the meeting, that it is not necessary I should say another word, further than to advise my friends not only to hold on to their interest, but to increase their holdings. Unless the calculations of every practical man who has inspected the mine are entirely wrong, it will prove a very productive and profitable lead mine, equal, I hope, to that of its neighbour, WEST CHIVERTON, of which the lode partakes very much in character at the same depth. It is with great satisfaction that I am enabled to announce the continued prosperity of this splendid mining property—West Chiverton. In addition to all the other productive parts of the mine a discovery of another part of the lode at the 110 fm. or deepest level has been made during the past few days; the lode is now estimated to be worth 100/- per fm. This is certainly a great mining prize, and likely to prove a source of great profit to the shareholders for many years to come. In the meantime, doubtless, other good mines will be opened up in the same locality, and among them I know of none offering greater chances than NORTH WHEAL CHIVERTON. I am about to visit several mines in this and other districts, returning on Monday, the 26th

instant, and shall feel much pleasure in giving a candid and honest opinion upon their merits to anyone desirous of acquiring information. I shall make some remarks on Great Wheal Vor, West Great Work, East Lovell, and Trumpet Consols next week.

MINING NOTABILIA.

[EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.]

GREAT SOUTH CHIVERTON continues to improve. The lode in the winze is larger than it was last week, and in every way likely to produce lead in a few fathoms sinking. It must be remembered that there are eight lodes already discovered, all running parallel to West Chiverton, and considering the large extent of the sett, it will eventually be one of the great prizes of the county. The specimens lately sent to London are really worth inspection.

Mining Correspondence.

BRITISH MINES.

BEDFORD UNITED.—J. Phillips, Aug. 21: Our stoves throughout the mine continue to yield about their usual quantity of ore.—**North Lode:** We are driving by the side of the lode in the 90 east. The lode in the 75 east is 20 in. wide, producing saving work. The lode in the winze in the 62 is 3 ft. wide, composed of capel, spar, and some saving work.

BLACK CRAIG CONSOLS.—Arthur Waters, Aug. 20: Harriet's engine-shaft is in regular course of being sunk below the 54 by nine men, is now down about 3 fms., and we calculate upon sinking to the 66 in 3½ months from this date. The sinking of the shaft is a very important matter here, for until you are in a position to get returns from (say) two hauls at a time no material profits can accrue to the shareholders. The great lode is so hard, and the ore ground in it (being in the footwall of everything previously seen in the mines) not yet understood, sometimes apparently dipping one way, and then another, making it impossible to do more than to follow the ore steadily and carefully, as at present. This is a new discovery, and were you to increase your number of hands at the different points of operation you might get a few additional tons of ore, but the result would be less work for the money. A fully agree with your present mode of operations, and feel confident that as soon as the 66 shall have been laid open the prosperity of the mine will be secured. The annexed sketch will show you the extent of the ore ground laid open, taken away, and to be taken away in back of the 54. The ground already cut has yielded about 93 tons of lead ore, and this quantity being from (say) one-fourth of the section between the two levels the reserves may be estimated at 279 tons, or a money value of £4871. 10s. We believe, however, that the best of the ground is still to come, and, considering that the levels are driven, the winzes sunk, and the drift through the middle, cutting up the ground to the best advantage for stowing, it is very likely the returns will be increased at reduced expense of getting them. The rise from the 54 to drift will be communicated in course of a day or two, when some of those men will be put in the 42 east, on the blonde ground, where I feel persuaded good is to be done. There are two or three points likely to come off in the 54, east of Harriet's cross-cut, at the junction of the blackstone with great north and middle lodes. This ground will be developed as soon as possible. The lead ore is broken and dressed by the end of this week will be about 12 tons. The men have been sinking and rising from drift and the 52, and packing up the ground in stoves against the blackstone, or more lead ore would have been raised. This work being accomplished, the stowing will go on without delay. The machinery at surface and underground is all in good working order, and the engine-shaft in through good condition.

BOTTLE HILL.—J. Eddy, Aug. 22: North Lode: We are driving a cross-cut towards the lode by six men; the ground continues easy for working. I think we have from 8 to 10 fms. further to drive before reaching this lode, which will be done if the ground continues as we now have it in about six weeks from this time.—**South Lode:** We are driving east of the south cross-cut on the course of this lode by four men; the ground continues moderately easy for working; the lode is getting more settled, and producing tin. We are stamping our tinstuff already broken as fast as possible, in order to get a sampling, but for the present we are very short of water both for drawing and stamping.

BRONFLYD UNITED.—T. Kemp, Aug. 22: The cross-cut from bottom of new shaft, at 62 fms. deep, reached the north wall of the lode, as advised last Thursday. The men have since cut about 3 fms. across the lode, and so far it is of an equally good character with that in the level above, and worth about 2 tons of lead ore per fathom. No other alteration.

BRYN GWOIG.—S. Harper, Aug. 21: The lode in the 102, driving east from engine-shaft, still continues from 3 to 4 ft. wide, composed of spar, blonde, and lead ore, producing saving work, and a very promising looking lode. The same level, west of the winze, is of much the same character and value as when last reported on. The same may be said of the winze in bottom of this level. The lode in the 90, west from No. 1 winze, east of engine-shaft, is looking well, now worth 3 tons per fathom, and promising for further improvement. The lode in No. 1 winze, in bottom of this level, is 3 ft. wide, much the same value as last reported—2 tons per fathom. We commenced driving a level about 5 or 6 fms. below this winze, which will intersect this winze in about 6 fathoms. This end has been suspended over two years, and, having opened out the south side of the level, we are suspended to inform you that we have broken some fine lumps of lead, which looks very promising for the shoot of one above and before us, which we have already opened out about 30 fms. in length, and where it is now in the fore-bay, worth 2 tons per fathom. The lode in the 90, driving east from No. 3 winze, is about 1½ ft. wide, much of the same value as last reported—1½ ton per fathom. The lode in the 75 west is somewhat reduced in size, now about 1 foot wide, with little lead, but the ground is much harder than for some past, the ground about this point being very changeable.—**Bramwell's Shaft:** I hope to reach the 75 about the end of this month, i.e., from the 66 fm. level. We are also getting on very well with fixing ship-road from the surface to the 105 yard level. At the 66 east of engine-shaft, we are still in the shale, consequently I have no alteration to report on in this point. The lead ore met with in Brook's old run still continues good, and worth 2 tons per fathom. All other points throughout the mine continue the same as for some time past.

BWLCH CONSOLS.—R. Norbury, Aug. 21: The lode in the 30 is 3 feet wide, producing equal to last report. The stope in the back of the 30 is worth 16 cwt. per fathom. The lode in the 40 is of equal value as last reported, and looking more promising than at that date. The stope in the back of the 40 is worth 1½ ton per fathom. The lode in the 50 is 1 ft. wide, but no lead to value. The lode in the 60 is 2 ft. 6 in. wide, composed of killas and carbonate of lime; we have in each of these last two levels several fathoms more to drive to get under the ore gone down in the bottom of the 40. All our operations underground and at surface are going on well; we have commenced to dress, and are making good progress towards further sampling.

CAPE CORNWALL.—R. Pryor, W. White, Aug. 21: The lode in the 100 fm. level east is still yielding good stones of tin. The lode in the rise in back of the 90 is worth 4t. per fathom, and the stope east of rise is worth 3t. per fathom. The lode in the 70 west is still large, and yielding good copper ore.

CARADON CONSOLS.—S. Bennetts, Aug. 19: In taking down the lode in the 90 west, I am pleased to find a gradual improvement; it is now 1½ ft. wide, worth 6t. per fathom, and every appearance of its soon becoming more valuable. The stope in the back of the 80 is worth 15t. per fathom. The new shaft continues to progress favourably, and if we can by means of an air-machine get in the rise I think we shall be enabled to hole in the course of a week.

CLARA UNITED.—J. Davis, Aug. 21: The mine is now drained to the bottom, and the men have this day resumed work in the 62 fm. level. The winze under the 40 was holed last Thursday, and the men put to drive the 40 west a few feet. The branch in which the winze is sunk is 4 feet south of the stoves below, so I intend to stope both branches together up to the 40, which will be about 5 fathoms. There is no alteration in the other bargains since my last. We are drawing regularly, but I am sorry to state that we have not a sufficient supply of water to crush with.

CRELAKE.—W. Skewis, W. Hooper, Aug. 22: The 74 west is cleared and secured to the end, tramroad put in, and the driving by two men resumed; the lode is 1½ ft. wide, composed of mudi, spar, and copper ore—saving work. The lode in the rise in the back of the 62 west is 3½ ft. wide, worth from 15t. to 18t. per fathom. The lode in the 50 west is 3½ ft. wide, composed of mudi, capel, and copper ore, worth from 10t. to 12t. per fathom, a very promising-looking lode.

The lode in Williams's, or No. 1 stope, in the back of this level, is 3½ ft. wide, worth 7t. per fathom. In the nov. or No. 2 stope, in the back of this level, the lode is 4½ ft. wide, worth 12t. per fathom. The lode in the winze sinking below this level is 3 ft. wide, worth 6t. per fathom. In the 40 west the lode is 2 ft. wide, composed of mudi, spar, and copper ore; the ground here, both over and under the lode, is of a firmer description than for some fathoms driven through. The lode in the western, or Dart's rise, in the back of this level, is 2 ft. wide, worth 8t. per fathom. The lode in the stope in the back of this level is 5 ft. wide, worth 15t. per fathom. In the 28 west the men have during the past week been engaged at surface in preparing the ore for sampling, rather than increase the number of hands for a few days only.

CROWAN AND WENDRON.—R. Reynolds, Aug. 20: The lode in the shaft is still split into two parts; the north part is about 1 ft. wide, producing good stones of tin, but not enough to value at per fathom. The lode in the winze is improved for tin since last reported, and the ground a little more favourable for sinking. We have cleared and secured the run of crushed ground about the clay-course in the south adit level, and are now engaged clearing up the eastern shaft. I hope by Saturday next this will be completed.

CUDDRA.—F. Puckey, Aug. 21: Since reporting last week no change of any consequence has taken place in any part of our mine, and we are progressing satisfactorily in our various points of operation.

DALE.—N. Nine, Aug. 19: The 37 fm. level is about the same, worth fully 4 tons of lead, and about the same quantity of blonde, per fathom. There is no change to notice in the 44 fm. level cross-cut at this time.

DEVON AND CORNWALL UNITED.—T. Nell, Aug. 20: George and Charlotte: The lode in the 24 east is 4 feet wide, looking promising.—William and Mary: In the 46 there is no change to notice. In the 34 east we are driving by the side of the lode, which will be taken down in a few days, and hope for an improvement. In the 34 west of engine-shaft, we have not yet cut the cross-course. The lode in the 22 west is looking very promising, and producing good stones of ore. The tribute pitches are producing fair quantities of ore.

EAST BOTTLE HILL.—J. Eddy, Aug. 23: We are continuing to drive the 10 fm. level east by six men. For the last 6 fms. driving the lode has been split up, forming a north and south branch; there is a horse of killas between the two, about 8 ft. wide. I am happy to say two branches have now formed a junction, consequently the lode has very much improved in size and quality.

EAST GUNNISLAKE.—J. Phillips, Aug. 22: We have not yet met with the lode in the 54, west of Gard's shaft. In the shallow adit we have cut through the lode, and find it is 2 feet wide, composed of spar, with a little gossan, and carrying a very kindly leader on the footwall of black ore, mudi, and prian—still saving work.

EAST LAXEY.—W. H. Rowe, Aug. 20: The lode in the 20 fm. level forehead does not look quite so well to-day; the branch of copper is again broken up, but from the nature of the ground it is more than possible we may have another change in a day or two.

EAST NEPTUNE.—P. Floyd, Aug. 22: We have cut the lode in the 25 fathom level cross-cut driving north, and have cut into it about 18 in.; it is producing splendid stones of rich grey and yellow copper ore. We expect to have about 10 feet more to drive before we reach the north wall of the lode, and when done I will send you the result, value of the lode, &c. We have communicated the winze sinking below the 15 to the 25 fm. level, and shall at once commence to cut plait, in readiness to sink the shaft to the deep adit, which is about 10 fathoms. Our prospects at the present time are most cheering.

EAST ROSEWARNE.—C. Glasson, Aug. 22: In King's shaft, sinking below the 25, the lode is 12 in. wide, producing stones of copper ore, but not enough to value. In the 95, east of King's shaft, the lode is 15 in. wide, worth 5t. per fathom. There is no change to notice in the 95, west of King's shaft, since my last report. In the 85, west of King's shaft, the lode is 12 in. wide, worth 7t. per fathom. In the rise in the back of this level the lode is 9 in. wide, worth 7t. per fathom. We shall sample next week about 110 tons of copper ore, of the usual quality.

EAST SNAEFELL.—W. H. Rowe, Aug. 14: I was unable to write to you after taking down some of the lode in the 15, a few yards back from the forehead, in order to prove if the footwall part had separated from the hanging wall, upon which we are now driving; I, however, find it will take a shift or two more to be fully satisfied upon the point. As the meeting is so close at hand, I have also

decided on driving a few yards southwards from the sump in the 15, as it will enable me to speak more positively of the dip of the ground, &c. In order to accomplish this, and the air getting so bad (in addition to the water), I have had to increase the number of water and stuff drawers to eight men instead of six. The end is set to six men, at 7t. per fm., and the engine-shaft at 28t. There is no change in the vein since the 7th.

EAST ST. JUST UNITED.—R. Pryor, R. P. Goldsworthy, R. Wearne, Aug. 21: Eastern Mine: At Phillip's engine-shaft, sinking under the 30, the ground is favourable; lode without change. The 20, east from cross-course, on Agaworth lode, is producing stones of tin, with a kindly appearance. The 20, west from the cross-course, on Agaworth lode, is without change.—Western Mine: At Saveall's engine-shaft, sinking below the 90, the lode is worth 15t. per fm. The 90, east from Saveall's, is worth 10t. per fm. The 90, west from same shaft, is worth 12t. per fm. The lode in the winze sinking under the 76 west is worth 6t. per fm. The 76, west from Saveall's, is worth 8t. per fm., and promising for further improvement.—Buck Lode: The 62 east is worth 5t. per fm.—Owl Lode: The 40, north from Reddipper shaft, is without change; this remark will also apply to the 20, south from Saveall's. The 10, north from West Buck shaft, is worth 6t. per fm. The 10, north from the same shaft, on the branch, is worth 6t. per fm. The adit north from same shaft is worth 6t. per fm.—North Lode: The 20 east from Reddipper shaft; Reddipper Lode: The 20 east is without change.

EAST WHEAL GRENVILLE.—G. R. Odgers, W. Bennetts, Aug. 17: The lode in the engine-shaft, sinking below the 95, is 18 inches wide, with a little tin and ore—a promising lode, but not to value. The lode in the 95 east is 18 in. wide, and worth for ore and tin 6t. per fathom—a kindly lode. The lode in the 95 west is 18 in. wide, and when last taken down it was worth from 1 to 1½ ton of ore per fm. per fathom; this will be taken down on Monday, so that you shall be fully advised against the meeting. The lode in the stope above this level is worth 2 tons of copper ore to the fathom. The lode in the 75 east is small, but contains little ore and mandic.

EAST WHEAL RUSSELL.—W. Richards, Aug. 17: The lode in the 130 fm. level cross-cut, north-east of the slide, is cut through, and found to be over 9 fm. in width, very strong and kindly, and when it is driven on west towards the slide I believe a good improvement will take place. The ground now is a strongly mineralised elvan, and the water issues from the end as before, which induces me to think there are branches or the lode ahead. We shall, therefore, push on the cross-cut for proof of it, &c.

—W. Richards, Aug. 20: The ground in the 130 fm. level cross-cut, east of the slide, is a strongly mineralised elvan, and easy for progress. Water issues from the western side as before, and I still think there are branches or the lode ahead.

I will send a full report of the mine to-morrow.

EAST WHEAL GROSVENOR.—W. Richards, Aug. 21: The lode in the 130 fm. level cross-cut, north-east of the slide, is cut through, and found to be over 9 fm. in width, very strong and kindly, and when it is driven on west towards the slide I believe a good improvement will take place. The ground now is a strongly mineralised elvan, and the water issues from the end as before, which induces me to think there are branches or the lode ahead. We shall, therefore, push on the cross-cut for proof of it, &c.

—W. Richards, Aug. 21: The part of the lode now being cut into in the cross-cut north of Homersham's shaft, in the 130, contains quartz, capel, iron, some red oxide of copper, and grey copper ore. Water issues freely from the extreme point, and it is slow for progress at this time. The part of the lode carried in the 140 east is 18 inches wide, containing quartz, peat, flookan, mandic, and yellow copper ore, but not enough to value. The lode in the 120 is worth 10t. per fm. per fathom—a kindly lode.

EAST WHEAL GROSVENOR.—W. Richards, Aug. 21: The lode in the 130 fm. level cross-cut, east of the slide, is cut through, and found to be over 9 fm. in width, very strong and kindly, and when it is driven on west towards the slide I believe a good improvement will take place. The ground now is a strongly mineralised elvan, and the water issues from the end as before, which induces me to think there are branches or the lode ahead. We shall, therefore, push on the cross-cut for proof of it, &c.

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mines, the mining cost is likely to be very moderate, and pig-iron is estimated to be produced much under 2*l.* per ton—a profitable figure, even at the present low prices. A company has been formed, whose capital is nearly all subscribed in which the lessees have merged their interests, and the works will be constructed by Mr. Beckton, C.E., of Whitby. There seems every likelihood that the rural vale around Malton will soon become the busy centre of an iron-yielding country.

IMPROVED BLASTING MATERIAL.

Although gun-cotton has been very generally admitted to possess many great advantages as a blasting material, it has failed to come into general use, owing to the inconvenience of getting the workmen to follow a somewhat different routine in blasting from that they have been accustomed to; Mr. ROLLASON, of Limehouse, has, therefore, patented an invention by which the miner or collier shall be enabled to use his gun-cotton cartridge precisely as if it were a gunpowder cartridge. According to Mr. Rollason's invention, a case is made of paper or other suitable material, similar to a rocket-case, and, being closed at the bottom, is placed in a mould, after which the end of a fuse commonly used in mining operations is placed inside the case, either on one side of it or down the centre. The end of the fuse rests on the bottom of the case. The case itself is then to be filled with gun-cotton, or other similar compound, rammed down very tight with a rammer, or by hydraulic pressure, the fuse during the filling of the cartridge being protected from injury by a groove which fits in the rammer. When the case is filled it is closed at the top, either by tying or by a clasp. By this means is produced a cartridge of great strength, which will withstand rough handling, and possesses the additional advantage of being fired at the further or inner end.

When making cartridges for artillery purposes, or for sporting or other guns or rifles, the gun-cotton, or pyroxyline compound, may be modified or reduced in strength or explosive power by mixing with unprepared cotton, wool, paper pulp, or other explosive fibre or pulverised material. As the compound in such a case would burn or explode slowly, it would be desirable to place upon it, before inserting the ball or shot, some waterproof wadding, or other suitable material, so as to prevent the escape of the gas; if, on the contrary, it is desired to increase the explosive power of the cartridges, as will frequently be the case for mining purposes, he saturates the gun-cotton, or pyroxyline, of which they are composed in a concentrated solution of chlorate or nitrate of potash, or other analogous compound, the chlorate of potash being preferred, or the pyroxyline, or some part of it, may be saturated with nitro-glycerine. The gun-cotton, or pyroxyline, thus prepared, should be well dried before being rammed into the cartridge cases. When hydraulic pressure is employed to compress the pyroxyline the drying is not of very much consequence. When the case is filled it is closed at the top, either by tying or by a clasp, or other suitable means, except when hydraulic pressure is used, when a simple wrapper will suffice, and there will be no occasion to close the ends of the cartridges. A cartridge of great strength and explosive power, which will stand rough handling, and possess the additional advantage of being fired at the further or inner end, can be thus produced with great facility and economy.

Another kind of cartridge can be made, in all respects similar to the foregoing, except that the fuse in this instance is not inserted, but in its place there is a rod of wood or metal, only of larger diameter, which when the cartridge is filled is withdrawn, leaving a hole down the side, or centre, of the inside of the cartridge. By this means a miner is enabled to fire the cartridge by the means of a straw fuse, which is well known, as the fire from the fuse will penetrate the whole length of the cartridge down the side aperture. Either of the above cartridges may be waterproofed before being filled or after, by being coated with any suitable waterproof material, or the cases may be made of some substance already waterproofed. If the cartridge be compressed by hydraulic power, it will be sufficiently hard to admit of boring a hole through any part.

In making fuses for the improved cartridges, instead of using gunpowder, gun-cotton thread, or gun-cotton tubing is employed, and may be inserted down the side or other opening or perforation in the cartridge, as already described. This gun-cotton thread or tubing may be saturated with a solution of chlorate or nitrate of potash, as already mentioned, and when dry may be placed inside a tube made of metal or fibre, the same as the ordinary blasting fuse, or the thread or tubing may be used alone.

SAVING LIFE AFTER COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS.—In order to facilitate the rescue of miners who may be unfortunate enough to be in a colliery when an explosion occurs, Mr. C. J. POWELL, of the Union Club, proposes to construct in various parts of the underground workings of the mines a number of chambers, which shall be capable of holding a number of men. These chambers are to be hollowed or tunnelled out of the sides of the seam, or workings, or to be of wrought or cast iron, timber, brick, stone, or other suitable material, which shall be so placed in recesses hewn or excavated at the sides of the workings that they shall be exposed as little as possible to the violence of the explosion. These chambers, and the door or entrance to them, can be, if found necessary, fire and water proof, and are to be rendered as airtight as possible, and to have a loaded valve to each, for the escape of the vitiated or superfluous air from the inside. Each of these chambers is to be supplied with pure or fresh air, by means of air pumps, fans, or blowers, driven by the wind or the pumping engines of the pit, or other suitable motive power; and this pure air is to be conducted into the chambers through wrought-iron, cast-iron, India-rubber, or other pipes, which should be laid under the floor or surface of the workings, and carried in at the back of the air-chamber, to protect them from injury by explosion or otherwise. Wires, properly insulated, can be laid through or alongside of the air-pipes, for the purpose of affording the means of telegraphic communication from the chambers to the pit bank. When it is expected that noxious gases are accumulating, or have accumulated, in the pit, from the effects of an explosion, or otherwise, instead of the miners to whom the explosion has not already proved fatal having to make their way to the bottom of the shaft, in doing which they are generally overcome by these gases, Mr. Powell intends that they shall take shelter in those chambers which are suitably placed to be most readily reached by them. In these chambers they could remain for a considerable period (fresh air being continually supplied by the pumps or fans), until relief was afforded to them, or until they could with safety reach the bottom of the shaft; and for this purpose he further proposes that there should be kept in each chamber a number of ordinary air-belts, or elastic bags, already charged, or which could be charged, with air when required for use from valves or taps on the air supply pipe in the interior of the chamber, and from these belts or bags each man could inhale pure or fresh air while making his way through any noxious gases towards the shaft.

PETROLEUM AS FUEL FOR STEAM-BOILERS.—The process introduced by Col. Foote, of Boston, U.S., consists in supplying a small retort in the furnace of the boiler with petroleum, superheated steam, and air. The oil is led through a small pipe by gravity to the retort, from a reservoir at a distance. The steam is supplied by the boiler, and it is claimed to be superheated and deoxidised on its passage to the retort, and the air is injected by an air-pump worked by the engine. The steam is superheated and deoxidised by passing through a red-hot coil of pipe, filled with iron filings or shingle nails. This mixture issues from a number of burners distributed over the area of the furnace, and so arranged, also, as to heat the retort and coil of pipe before mentioned. The pipes are about 4-in. gas-pipe, radiating from the retort, the ends turned upward, into which is inserted a fluted conical plug of cast-iron, about 3 in. long, ending at the top in a disc of the same metal, about 3 inches in diameter. These plugs, discs, pipes, and retort are kept at a red heat by the action of a fire, and serve the purpose of spreading the gases as they inflame and issue from the pipes, and distribute it throughout the furnace. By the aid of stop-cocks in each of the three pipes conveying petroleum, steam, and air to the retort, the character and intensity of the fire can be regulated and adjusted instantly and at pleasure; or the fire can be immediately extinguished and re-lighted, so long as the pipes and plugs remained red hot. The flame produced was of a bluish-white colour, denoting perfect combustion, and of a very high temperature.

THE PETROLEUM TRADE—PRESENT AND FUTURE.—The following is an extract from the circular of Broadbridge and Co., Liverpool:—

A fair exposition of the present and prospective state of this article (now that the season is about commencing) may be interesting. The figures are adopted from the best information that can be obtained, and though there may be some irregularity in detail, the aggregate will not be far wrong.

AMERICA.—Total shipments from all the ports from Jan. 1, 1867, to Aug. 1, 1867, 894,800 barrels; same time 1866, 750,000 barrels; 1866 was the greatest American export year on record, yet 1867 eclipsed it by 144,800 barrels up to date.

EUROPE.—Stock in London, August 19, 1867, 69,000 barrels; same time 1866, 25,000. Stock in Liverpool this date, 1867, 45,000 barrels; same time 1866, 10,000. Stock in Antwerp, loading and afloat, 1867, 90,000 barrels; same time, 1866, 46,000. Stock in Bremen, this date, 1867, 85,000 barrels; same time, 1866, 87,000. Stock in Bremen, 1867, 160,000.

It is estimated upon good authority that the quantity now in stock and loading for Antwerp, Bremen, Rotterdam, and Hamburg is over 500,000 barrels.

PRICES.—London to-day's quotations, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*; Liverpool, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*; Antwerp, 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*; Bremen, 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*; and Hamburg, 1*s.* 2*d.* These quotations show that the prices are lower at the great continental consuming ports than they are in this country, which is having the effect of drawing all the floating cargoes here, and may level or lessen our prices to a foreign standard.

SULPHUR.—In the extraction of sulphur from the Romagna sulphur stone, Mr. Brunfaut, of Brussels, as a substitute for the process (which involved much loss) previously in use, employs an apparatus consisting of a horizontal iron cylinder, having a sort of Archimedean screw within along its whole length, and turning more or less slowly, according to the nature of the mineral under operation. The latter is poured in through a funnel, and when it has sufficiently undergone the action of the cylinder is let out again on the other side, hot air or steam under a pressure of three atmospheres being constantly introduced into the cylinder, in order to keep up the temperature. By this means 150 cubic metres of the mineral may be disposed of in twenty-four hours.

GOLD FIELDS OF VICTORIA.—A pamphlet by Mr. R. L. M. Kitto, M.E., has just been issued through Mr. E. F. G. Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, under this title, embracing statistics gathered from the various departments of the Victorian Government, and other sources. Some details as to the nature of the book will be given next week.

* * * With this week's Journal we give a SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET, containing the report of the Proceedings of the South Wales Institute of Engineers, at their meeting just held, and at which papers were read on Mechanical Ventilation, by Mr. G. Cope Pearce; on the Structure of Iron, by Mr. W. Vivian; on the Cornish Engine, by Mr. M. Loam; on Pumping and Windings, by Mr. G. C. Pearce; and on the Coal Brasses of the South Wales Coal Field, by Mr. Adams; and an interesting series of discussions upon other papers took place; Paris Exhibition—No. XVII.; Practical Iron Manufacture—No. III.; New Tunnelling and Quarrying Machinery; Machinery for Dressing Slates (with engraving); Foreign Mining and Metallurgy, &c.

shire, 17,533 tons; Severn ports, 4271 tons; Scotch ports, 11,806 tons. Total January to July, 5,323,298 tons; same time last year, 5,388,182 tons—showing a decrease of 64,884 tons.

There is very little change to report upon in the MINING SHARE MARKET; business is remarkably quiet, and prices dull. The standard for copper ore, we are glad to say, has risen 2*l.* 10*s.*, and the Devon Great Consols sale shows a good rise in copper. At the July sale 1731 tons realised 7577. 6*s.*; and, according to the produce, the price paid was 67*s.* per ton for the copper in the ore. The present sale (1714 tons) has brought 8100*s.*; and, as it produces 111 tons of copper, it is equal to 73*s.* per ton, or a rise of 6*s.*

West Chiverton shares have had a further rise, to 68, 69. The lode in the 110 is worth 90*s.* per fm., and not yet cut through. The dividend declared to-day, we believe, was 2*l.* per share (600*s.*), but we have not yet received particulars of the accounts and report. Wheal Chiverton, 7 to 7*1* $\frac{1}{2}$; the mine, we hear, is looking well, and no call required. Minera Mine, 170 to 180*s.*; from the minutes of the seventeenth annual general meeting, held on the mine on Aug. 9, we learn that the profit on the twelve months' working was 30,369*s.* 10*s.*, and the dividends declared have been 16*s.* 10*s.* per share, equal to 66 per cent. on the share capital. The reserves in the mine at the end of June, 1866, were estimated at 12,927 tons of lead, and are now 13,660 tons, although between these dates 4862 tons have been raised and sold. The mine is reported as in a sound condition, and with great promise of large returns from the eastern part of the mine for many years to come. East Lovell, 6*s.* to 6*s.* 1*d.*; at the meeting the accounts showed a profit of 660*s.* 9*s.* 9*d.* on four months' working, and a dividend of 6*s.* 8*s.* per share was declared, leaving 25*s.* 1*d.* in hand, with the accounts charged up to April. Chontales have been in demand, and have risen to 5*s.* 5*d.*

Prince of Wales shares have declined to 4*s.*, 4*s.*, owing to the short supply of water rendering it impossible to draw and crush all the stuff from the mine. At the meeting it was hoped that a few showers of rain would remedy this, but rain, so abundant in some places, has been very spare in others; and at the present moment the agents report upwards of 50 tons of ore broken underground, and the levels choked for want of drawing-power, and if not remedied by an increase of water, or a steam-whim, the next sampling will be short. The agent, however, it is said, will make up for the deficiency in the following months, so that the quarter's accounts will show the expected profits; and the halvans on the mine, which could then be returned, would pay for the cost of a steam-whim. Chiverton Moor, 4*s.* to 5*s.*; at the meeting a call of 2*s.* 6*s.* per share was made. Wheal Buller, 20 to 22*s.*; the points in operation are worth 187*s.* per fathom; at Kistle's shaft the water has been forked to the 100 fm. level, and the stuff will be cleared at once. The lode in the 60 fathom level west, on the north branch, which last week produced stones of rich copper ore only, is now producing 1 ton of copper ore per fathom of good quality. Clifford Amalgamated, 7 to 7*1* $\frac{1}{2}$; East Bassett, 15 to 17*1* $\frac{1}{2}$; East Caradon, 4*s.* to 5*s.*; East Carn Brea, 2*s.* to 2*s.* 10*s.* Wheal Crebor shares are enquired for at 4*s.* to 6*s.*; at the meeting the accounts showed 493*s.* 5*s.* against the company, and a call of 1*s.* 6*s.* per share was made. In the winze below the 96 east the lode is worth 15*s.* per fm., and as the same is cut into worth 10*s.* per fm. in the 108 cross-cut east, the agents consider the prospects of the mine more favourable. East Russell, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*s.*; Frontino and Bolivia, 7*s.* to 9*s.*; Great Laxey, 18*s.* to 19*s.*; Great Retallack, 4*s.* to 4*s.* 10*s.*; the mine has sampled 25 tons of silver-lead ore, for sale next week. Great Wheal Vor, 16*s.* to 17*s.*; Herodsfoot, 35 to 37*s.*; Marke Valley, 4*s.* to 5*s.*; North Crofty, 3*s.* to 3*s.* 10*s.*; North Treskerby shares have been largely dealt in, and leave off 1*s.* to 1*s.* Providence Mines, 27 to 29*s.*; South Caradon, 360 to 370; South Conduor, 10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*s.*; South Frances, 22*s.* to 25*s.*; Tincroft, 12 to 13*s.*; West Seton, 14*s.* to 15*s.*; Wheal Bassett, 65 to 70*s.*; Wheal Grenville, 10*s.* to 12*s.* 6*s.*; Wheal Mary Ann, 15 to 16*s.*; Wheal Seton, 105 to 110*s.* Great North Downs, 4*s.* to 4*s.* 10*s.*; the mine has sampled 348 tons of rich ore for June and July, and estimated to produce 2500*s.*, and a profit of 800*s.* The agent states the returns of ore will increase. Redmoor shares have been in request at 4*s.* to 6*s.*; the mine is looking better, and a lode expected to be cut soon in the 64. Devon Great Consols, 400 to 420*s.*

The tone of the Market for Mine Shares on the Stock Exchange is very good, and business in this department wears an improving aspect. St. John del Rey, 60 to 62; Don Phillip, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Anglo-Brazilian, 1-16th to 3-16th prem.; Pestarena, 1*s.* prem.; Chontales, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Port Phillip, 1-16th to 3-16th prem.; Rossa Grande, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Anglo-Italian, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; United Mexican, 1*s.* to 2*s.*; Cape Copper, par to 1*s.* prem.; English and Australian Copper, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Kapunda, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Yudamutana, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Quebrada, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Alamillos, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Scottish Australian, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 10*s.*; Devon Consols, 400 to 420*s.*; West Seton, 14*s.* to 15*s.*; Wheal Seton, 107*s.* to 112*s.*; West Chiverton, 68 to 70*s.* and in demand; the lode in the 110 fathom level is worth 100*s.* per fathom, one of the finest courses of ore ever seen in Cornwall; a rock of lead from the deepest part was brought up yesterday, weighing 6*s.* cwt., and there are pieces of nearly double the weight underground; throughout the mine never looked so well; the usual quarterly dividend was declared to-day (Friday), of 2*l.*, and an increase may be looked for early in the year. Chiverton, 7 to 7*1* $\frac{1}{2}$; the prospects are improving. Chiverton Moor, 5*s.*; at the meeting, a call of 2*s.* 6*s.* per share was made, and the report was of a very encouraging character. At Westminster (Limited), the lode in Thompson's engine-shaft is worth 3 tons per fm., or 7 tons for the length of the shaft, and the 70 east is worth 2 tons per fm.; the 80 east and west are improving. North Crofty shares are firm, and the mine looking well; Great Laxey in demand, at 18 to 19*s.*; Great Vor shares are steady, at 16*s.* to 17*s.* The market closes firm.

IRISH MINE SHARE MARKET.—Although our market for Government and other standard securities has generally much improved, in consequence of more favourable accounts from London, none of those usually negotiated on our Stock Exchange have kept pace in their upward movement with that of the shares of the Mining Company of Ireland, or of the Wicklow Copper Mining Company. The former (7*s.* paid) closed last week at 16*s.* 10*s.*, but increased enquiry on Saturday sent them finally up to 16*s.* 17*s.* 6*s.* and 17*s.* for account. On Monday they rose a further 15*s.*, and on Tuesday a like amount, bringing the price up to 18*s.* 10*s.*, which has induced many sellers to enter their appearance, and the quotation to recede 10*s.*; but all shares offered under the previous figure having been quickly absorbed, the price has again advanced 7*s.* 6*s.* per share, so that they now close at 18*s.* 7*s.* 6*s.*, or a total advance of 1*s.* 17*s.* 6*s.* per share for the week. Wicklow Copper shares (2*s.* 10*s.* paid), which left off last week at an improvement of 2*s.* 6*s.*, or 20*s.* per share, have more gradually but very steadily advanced to 20*s.* 10*s.*, giving a total rise for the last few days of 10*s.* per share, with every appearance of continuing in great demand. As greatly increased attention to one or two mines almost invariably induces comparative neglect of the others, so Connoree shares have again lost their recent rise to 13*s.*, and are again on sale at 11*s.* 6*s.* General Mining Company for Ireland shares made about their previous price of 2*s.* 10*s.* per share, sellers, however, predominating. Want of space compels us to give only an extract of the article referred to in our last on "the Irish Railways" in the Saturday Review of Aug. 10, which is here appended:—

"In Ireland a railway system of 1800 miles, with an income of 1,700,000*s.*, occupies the time and pays for the services of 35 boards of directors. In England a single board manages a line with an income of 6,000,000*s.* Clearly 34 out of the 35 Irish boards are useless, and their remuneration is waste. But this is not the only evil of division. Everyone knows, even in England, the suffering inflicted on the public at the junctions of rival lines, and in Ireland all neighbouring companies are in a state of hostility; and the national temperament would exclude the possibility of amalgamations, even if the companies could afford the expense of obtaining parliamentary sanction. The evidence proved that there could be no economy, no profit, no facility for traffic, without amalgamation, and that amalgamation was impossible except in the form of Government absorption. Everything is anomalous in Ireland, and accordingly we find that the highest fares in the world are charged in the country which possesses the poorest population, and the insolvency of the many little companies precludes all hope of any amendment in this essential condition of prosperity. In the face of these facts it is not surprising that the Irish railway companies should be as anxious to be bought as their brethren in England are to retain their independence, even in the midst of the trouble that now oppresses them. But is the arrangement practicable? On this point, too, Mr. Mouzell was furnished with unanswerable evidence. The selling value of the Irish lines is under 20,000,000*s.*, and their income even now is 900,000*s.*, which is 260,000*s.* in excess of Government interest on the purchase money required. This would afford a large

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET—LONDON, AUGUST 23, 1867.

COPPER.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	IRON.	Per ton.

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margin for the reduction of fares, and would be supplemented by the saving of 100,000 or more resulting from united management. To those who objected that Government management might be inefficient the answer was ready that, according to the evidence of leading railway authorities, there would be no difficulty in leaving the whole concern to capitalists on terms that would make the country safe against loss, and secure enormous facilities for cheap and rapid traffic, which are now wholly unattainable. * * * * In every imperfectly developed country, the rules which are sound enough for a flourishing community lose much of their application. Private enterprise was incapable of making railways in India, and the Government stepped in, though by no means in the wisest way; and the result is that India is covered with remunerative lines of railway. So, when it is proved that Ireland is incapable of working her railways to the advantage of the community, or the profit of those interested in them, there is at least as strong a motive for meeting the difficulty by Government interposition. And if it is to be met at all, no one can doubt that the franchise is better economy than any system of subsidies, or that the moderate fares which Government or its lessees could afford to take would be infinitely more conducive to the general welfare than the wretched plan of successive petty loans by which it has been vainly attempted to foster and sustain the railway enterprise of Ireland. If the railway companies themselves can resist the temptation of preying upon such a purchaser as the Government, we have no doubt that the enclosures about to be instituted will result in a transaction from which, perhaps, Ireland will hereafter date her tide of prosperity."

At Truro Ticketing, on Thursday, 3329 tons of ore were sold, realising 14,9031.12s. The particulars of the sale were:—Average standard, 1127.3s. Od.; average produce, 6s.; average price per ton, 41.9s. 6d.; quantity of fine copper, 214 tons 9 cwt. The following are the particulars of the sales during the past month:—

Date. Tons. Standard. Produce. Per unit. Ore copper. July 1... 4139 £109 17 0 6½ £2 0 13s. 1½d. £65 14 0 25.... 2116 100 6 0 7½ 4 17 6 12 10 64 2 0 Aug. 1.... 3189 105 14 0 6½ 4 1 0 12 7 63 0 0 8.... 1391 109 12 0 6 3 17 0 12 9 63 15 0 22.... 3329 112 3 0 6½ 4 9 6 13 11 69 10 0

Compared with the last sale, the advance has been in the standard 27.10s., and in the price per ton of ore about 3s. 2d. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the advance has been in the standard 37.12s., and in the price per ton of ore about 4s. 6d.

At West Chiverton Mine meeting, yesterday, a dividend of 6000s. (2d. per share) was declared. A fine discovery has been made in the 110, west of Hawk's; this has been driven 8 fms. west, on the south part of the lode, and at this part the agents commenced to cross-cut north, and intersected the north part of the lode, and so far as cut into (2 ft.) it is worth 50s. per fm.; this is independent of the north part, which is worth 98s. per fm.

At East Lovell Mine meeting, on Aug. 16, the accounts showed a profit on the four months' working of 628s. A dividend of 635s. (6s. 6d. per share) was declared, and 25s. carried to credit of next account. The south lode never looked so well before. The 40 west has varied in value from 30s. to 80s. per fathom, and a winze now below the level is worth 60s. to 80s. per fathom.

At Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes) meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. T. Reece in the chair), the accounts for the three months ending May showed a credit balance of 440s. 18s. 1d. The profit on the three months' working was 49s. 13s. 10d. Capt. Teague, Polkynhorne, and Davey consider their prospects more cheering than they were three months since.

At Clifford Amalgamated meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts showed a loss on the two months' working of 536s. The report was favourable. Capt. John Richards reported that they were raising a fair quantity of copper and tin, and only wanted better prices to make their mines again paying and profitable.

At North Wheal Chiverton quarterly general meeting, on Monday (Mr. George Noakes, F.G.S., in the chair), a very satisfactory report from the agent was read, which will be found, with full details of the meeting, in another column.

At Chiverton Moor meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts for the three months ending June showed a credit balance of 291s.

At Wheal Owles meeting, on Aug. 16, the accounts for the three months ending June showed a debit balance of 6151s. 18s. 2d. Nearly 174 fms. of ground has been removed during the quarter. They have 30s. per fathom, and 21 pitches on tribute. They have about 130 tons of tin unsold.

At West Wheal Frances meeting, on Aug. 15, the accounts for the three months ending May show a debit balance of 3331. 6s. 9d. The period for which the dues were given up being about to expire, it was resolved that application be made to the Hon. C. M. Fortescue for the favour of a continued remission in consideration of the loss still incurred in properly developing the mine. Capts. C. Thomas and Son, C. Craze, and H. Rabling reported upon the various points of operation.

At the Anglo-Brazilian Gold Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. Henry Haymen in the chair), the report of the directors and balance-sheet were received and adopted. Details in another column.

The Bank of England Returns for the week ending on Wednesday evening show in the ISSUE DEPARTMENT an increase in the "notes issued" of 70,500s., which is represented by a corresponding increase in the "coin and bullion" on the other side of the account. In the BANKING DEPARTMENT there is shown an increase in the "public deposits" of 1,018,476s., and in the "seven day and other bills" of 15,977s., together 1,034,453s.; a decrease in the "other deposits" of 479,008s., and in the "rest" of 41,07s., together 483,115s.—551,338s., and deducting from this the 328,810s. increase in the "other securities," on the asset side of the account, there remains an increase in the total reserve of 222,528s.

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THE COPPER TRADE.—Messrs. Vivian, Younger, and Bond (Aug. 23) write.—The firmness evinced by holders, especially of Chili produce in Liverpool, has resulted in a further improvement in prices of that description, bringing the figure for spot bars, good brands, up to 70s., whilst 1s. 6d. has been refused for a cargo of regulus to arrive. The actual business done has been only moderate—120 tons spot bars, 69½ tons, to 70s.; 120 tons bars to arrive, 70s. 10s. to 70½, 15s.; 20 tons Urmenate ingots, 78s., cash; 600 tons of ore (half Canadian) sold at 14s. 3d. per unit, and 180 tons of argenteiferous regulus at 14s. 2d. per unit. At the present moment there are no sellers of bars to arrive at 71s. English copper has participated in the improvement, and a fair business has been done in tough at 78s. and 79s. Quotations of Australian sorts remain unchanged. Holders of all kinds are firm.

VENTILATED FUEL.—In the manufacture of the ventilated fuel, to which reference was made in last week's Journal, Mr. Bird finds that just so much foreign matter should be added as will hold the particles of fuel in firm cohesion, and adds but a minimum of moisture, or other hindrance, to the equal combustion of all ingredients. The inventors remark that although the invention referred to on Saturday was abandoned, a re-application, including the invention described in the first provisional specification, with other improvements, was made on March 29, and that the invention described in the first provisional specification remained a secret until July 5, consequently the validity of March 29 patent is in no way affected. For combining the particles of coal dust, the patentees specify a glutinous material which soon dries into hardness—after the example of the well-known shoemaker's paste—and they add substances which keep the coal or coke in continuous combustion. There are but some 12 lbs. of foreign matter in all used to the ton of coal, and, consequently, Mr. Bird's ventilated bricks are, to all intents and purposes, the very fuel itself which it is sought to utilise.

THE CROWN PRESERVED COAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Notice is hereby given, that an ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of this company will be HELD at this office, on TUESDAY, the 27th inst., at Three o'clock in the afternoon. HENRY FLETCHER, Secretary. The Old Hall, 39, Oldhall-street, Liverpool, August 16, 1867.

margin for the reduction of fares, and would be supplemented by the saving of 100,000 or more resulting from united management. To those who objected that Government management might be inefficient the answer was ready that, according to the evidence of leading railway authorities, there would be no difficulty in leaving the whole concern to capitalists on terms that would make the country safe against loss, and secure enormous facilities for cheap and rapid traffic, which are now wholly unattainable. * * * * In every imperfectly developed country, the rules which are sound enough for a flourishing community lose much of their application. Private enterprise was incapable of making railways in India, and the Government stepped in, though by no means in the wisest way; and the result is that India is covered with remunerative lines of railway. So, when it is proved that Ireland is incapable of working her railways to the advantage of the community, or the profit of those interested in them, there is at least as strong a motive for meeting the difficulty by Government interposition. And if it is to be met at all, no one can doubt that the franchise is better economy than any system of subsidies, or that the moderate fares which Government or its lessees could afford to take would be infinitely more conducive to the general welfare than the wretched plan of successive petty loans by which it has been vainly attempted to foster and sustain the railway enterprise of Ireland. If the railway companies themselves can resist the temptation of preying upon such a purchaser as the Government, we have no doubt that the enclosures about to be instituted will result in a transaction from which, perhaps, Ireland will hereafter date her tide of prosperity."

Barrack Contracts.

WAR OFFICE, PALL MALL, LONDON, S.W.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Secretary of State for War is PREPARED to RECEIVE TENDERS for the execution of the following services at the various Barrack Stations in Great Britain for a period of Three years, from 1st October, 1867, viz.:—
WASHING BEDDING, DEODORISING AND EMPTYING SWEEPING CHIMNEYS, PRIVIES, REMOVAL OF STRAW AND ASHES.

Tenders will not be entertained unless made upon the proper printed form, which may be obtained with every requisite information upon application to the various Barrack Masters, between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock each day, Sundays excepted.

Applicants for Forms of Tenders must furnish the Barrack Master with every information as to their names, places of abode, and means of executing a contract.

The tenders must be sent to this office, addressed to the Director of Contracts, marked on the outside, "Tender for Sweeping Chimneys," or "Removal of Straw, &c.," or otherwise, as the case may be, on or before Saturday, 7th Sept. next, after which day no tender will be received.

The Secretary of State for War reserves the right of rejecting any or all of the tenders.

THOMAS HOWELL, Director of Contracts.

War Office, Pall Mall, London, S.W., 20th August, 1867.

At Truro Ticketing, on Thursday, 3329 tons of ore were sold, realising 14,9031.12s. The particulars of the sale were:—Average standard, 1127.3s. Od.; average produce, 6s.; average price per ton, 41.9s. 6d.; quantity of fine copper, 214 tons 9 cwt. The following are the particulars of the sales during the past month:—

Date. Tons. Standard. Produce. Per unit. Ore copper. July 1... 4139 £109 17 0 6½ £2 0 13s. 1½d. £65 14 0 25.... 2116 100 6 0 7½ 4 17 6 12 10 64 2 0 Aug. 1.... 3189 105 14 0 6½ 4 1 0 12 7 63 0 0 8.... 1391 109 12 0 6 3 17 0 12 9 63 15 0 22.... 3329 112 3 0 6½ 4 9 6 13 11 69 10 0

Compared with the last sale, the advance has been in the standard 27.10s., and in the price per ton of ore about 3s. 2d. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the advance has been in the standard 37.12s., and in the price per ton of ore about 4s. 6d.

At West Chiverton Mine meeting, yesterday, a dividend of 6000s. (2d. per share) was declared. A fine discovery has been made in the 110, west of Hawk's; this has been driven 8 fms. west, on the south part of the lode, and at this part the agents commenced to cross-cut north, and intersected the north part of the lode, and so far as cut into (2 ft.) it is worth 50s. per fm.; this is independent of the north part, which is worth 98s. per fm.

At East Lovell Mine meeting, on Aug. 16, the accounts showed a profit on the four months' working of 628s. A dividend of 635s. (6s. 6d. per share) was declared, and 25s. carried to credit of next account. The south lode never looked so well before. The 40 west has varied in value from 30s. to 80s. per fathom, and a winze now below the level is worth 60s. to 80s. per fathom.

At Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes) meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. T. Reece in the chair), the accounts for the three months ending May showed a credit balance of 440s. 18s. 1d. The profit on the three months' working was 49s. 13s. 10d. Capt. Teague, Polkynhorne, and Davey consider their prospects more cheering than they were three months since.

At Clifford Amalgamated meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts showed a loss on the two months' working of 536s. The report was favourable. Capt. John Richards reported that they were raising a fair quantity of copper and tin, and only wanted better prices to make their mines again paying and profitable.

At North Wheal Chiverton quarterly general meeting, on Monday (Mr. George Noakes, F.G.S., in the chair), a very satisfactory report from the agent was read, which will be found, with full details of the meeting, in another column.

At Chiverton Moor meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts for the three months ending June showed a credit balance of 291s.

At Wheal Owles meeting, on Aug. 16, the accounts for the three months ending June showed a debit balance of 6151s. 18s. 2d. Nearly 174 fms. of ground has been removed during the quarter. They have 30s. per fathom, and 21 pitches on tribute. They have about 130 tons of tin unsold.

At West Wheal Frances meeting, on Aug. 15, the accounts for the three months ending May show a debit balance of 3331. 6s. 9d. The period for which the dues were given up being about to expire, it was resolved that application be made to the Hon. C. M. Fortescue for the favour of a continued remission in consideration of the loss still incurred in properly developing the mine. Capts. C. Thomas and Son, C. Craze, and H. Rabling reported upon the various points of operation.

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WATSON BROTHERS' MINING CIRCULAR.

WATSON BROTHERS,
MINING AGENTS, STOCK AND SHARE DEALERS, &c.
1, ST. MICHAEL'S ALLEY, CORNHILL, LONDON.

MESSRS. WATSON BROTHERS beg to notify to their friends and the public generally that Mr. W. H. CUELL has retired from the firm, in accordance with a clause in the deed of partnership; and having also sold to the remaining partners all his right, property, and interest in the business hitherto carried on by J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S., NAPOLEON FREDERICK WATSON, and himself, under the name of "WATSON and CUELL," the same will be carried on in future by Mr. J. Y. WATSON and Mr. N. F. WATSON, under the designation of "WATSON BROTHERS," and they take this opportunity to return their most sincere thanks for the great patronage bestowed and confidence reposed in the firm for 24 years, and to assure their friends and clients it will be their earnest endeavour to merit a continuance of both.

Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS have made arrangements for continuing their weekly Circular, which has had a large circulation for many years, to the columns of the *Mining Journal*, their special reports and remarks upon mines and mining, and state of the share market, will in future appear in this column.

In the year 1843, when Cornish mining was almost unknown to the general public, attention was first called to its advantages when properly conducted, in the "Compendium of British Mining," commenced in 1837, and published in 1843, by Mr. J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S., author of "Gleanings among Mines and Miners," "Records of Ancient Mining," "Cornish Notes" (first series, 1862), "Cornish Notes" (second series, 1863), "The Progress of Mining," with statistics of the Mining Interest, annually for 21 years, &c., &c. In the Compendium, published in 1843, Mr. WATSON was the first to recommend the system of a "division of small risks in several mines, ensuring success in the aggregate," and Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS have always a selected list on hand. Perhaps at no former period in the annals of mining has there been more peculiar need of honest and experienced advice in regard to mines and share dealing than there is at present; and, from the lengthened experience of Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS they are emboldened to offer, thus publicly, their best services to all connected with mines or the market, as they have for so many years done privately, through the medium of their own Circular.

Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS transact business in the purchase and sale of mining shares, and other securities, payments of calls, receipt and transmission of dividends, obtaining information for clients, and affording advice, to the best of their knowledge and judgment, based on the experience of more than 30 years active connection with the Mining Market.

Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS also inform their clients and the public that they transact business in the public funds, railway, docks, insurance, and every other description of shares dealt in on the Stock Exchange.

Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS are also daily asked their opinion of particular mines, as well as to recommend mines to invest or speculate in, and they give their advice and recommend mines to the best of their judgment and ability, founded on the best practical advice they can obtain from the mining districts, but they will not be held responsible, nor subject to blame, if results do not always equal the expectations they may have held out in a property so fluctuating as mining.

Messrs. WATSON BROTHERS having agents and correspondents in all the mining districts, and an extensive connection among the largest holders of mining property, have the more confidence in tendering their advice on all matters relating to the state and prospects of mines and mining companies, and are able to supply shares in all the best mines at close market prices, free of all charge for commission.

PRINCE OF WALES.—At the meeting it was stated that the water was short for drawing purposes, but the agent hoped a few showers would put it right. On Thursday, we received information that from the continued short supply it was impossible to draw the stuff from the mine and crush it fast enough to make up the next sampling to the usual quantity; and, as this might be made use of to frighten holders out of their shares, the secretary at once sent a circular to the shareholders, informing them of the fact, and the committee took steps to remedy the defect in future. All the stuff from the mine is drawn to surface and crushed by water-power, to aid which the water raised from the mine by the steam-engine is pumped into a reservoir; but it is a somewhat singular circumstance that though in some places a vast amount of ral has fallen this year, in others there has been scarcely any. The sampling would not be due for a fortnight, and there are already on the mine 60 tons of ores raised, and 50 tons broken underground, and the water may not admit of crushing more than the 60 tons. The decreased sampling, however, will be made up, the agent says, before the end of the quarter, so that the three months' ores will give the usual amount of profit.

WELSH MINES.—Minera alone paid 29,700*l.* in dividends last year.

CHONTALES.—In our remarks of last week two rather important clerical errors appeared. We said 5000 tons of stuff a month, yielding 1*1/2* oz. of gold to the ton; and 3*1/2* tons per ounce would give 26,250*l.* a month, or a profit of over 20,000*l.* a month. But by mistake it was printed "26,250*l.* a year, or a profit of over 20,000*l.* a month," a result which must have appeared highly absurd, after the remarks that preceded and followed it.

BRITISH, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN PATENTS, REGISTRATION OF DESIGNS, COPYRIGHTS, TECHNICAL TRANSLATIONS, DRAWINGS, &c.

M. R. MICHAEL HENRY, Memb. Soc. Arts, Assoc. Soc. Engineers, Author of the "Inventors' Almanac," and the "Defence of the Present Patent Law."

PATENT REGISTRATION AND COPYRIGHT AGENT AND ADVISER. Inventors advised in relation to Patents and Inventions and Industrial Matters. Printed information sent free by post. Specifications drawn and revised. Searches conducted. Abstracts, Cases, and Opinions drawn.

Translations of Catalogues, Trade Notices, and Circulars for the approaching Paris Exhibition. Mr. HENRY has had especial experience in technical French, and in French Manufacturing and Commercial Matters.

Offices, 68, Fleet-street, E.C., London, corner of entrance in Whitefriars street.

CREASE'S NEW AND IMPROVED PATENT BORING MACHINE.—In consequence of the various and important improvements that an experience of several years has enabled the inventor to introduce into these machines, he can with the most perfect confidence recommend them for their increased DURABILITY, SIMPLICITY, ECONOMY, and SPEED to be attained by their adoption in DRIVING LEVELS OR DRAFFTS. The inventor has made arrangements to supply them in any quantity.

WANTED, TO PURCHASE, SHARES in the following MINES:—

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M. R. HANNAM, MINING, SLATE QUARRYING, INSURANCE, AND GENERAL SHAREBROKER, ROYAL INSURANCE BUILDINGS, KING STREET MANCHESTER; and 449, STRAND, LONDON, W.

INSTANTANEOUS COMMUNICATION with the STOCK and MINING EXCHANGES, avoiding the delay and annoyance of visiting the City to ascertain prices. A Monthly Investment Circular on application.

NOTICE.—CAPT. S. M. RIDGE, of LLANIDLOES, MONTGOMERYSHIRE (late manager of the Brynystig and Cwm Fron Mines, and others, in Shropshire and Wales), is NOW OPEN TO INSPECT, and faithfully REPORT UPON ANY LEAD MINE in either of these localities, what may be confided to his care, having had better than 30 years' experience in lead mining, as miner and agent.—Address, Capt. S. M. RIDGE, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire.

M. R. P. S. HAMILTON, MINING AND REAL ESTATE AGENT, AND PRACTICAL GEOLOGIST, OFFICE, No. 72, GRANVILLE STREET, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

N.B.—Sales and purchases of lands, quarries, and mining property negotiated upon the most advantageous terms, and with all possible dispatch. Explorations made or supervised, and reports prepared where required with the utmost care. Public attention is called to the fact that, owing to his experience as Gold Commissioner and Chief Commissioner of Mines, and as one who has been for years engaged in practical mining and geological explorations, Mr. HAMILTON has had opportunities which no other person has heretofore possessed of becoming intimately acquainted with the mineral resources of Nova Scotia.

Price 1*l.* 6*d.*, by post 1*l.* 8*d.*
NOTES ON THE MINES OF THE RIO TINTO DISTRICT: Containing a DETAILED REPORT upon the MINES and on the MEANS of RENDERING THEM MORE PROFITABLE, as well as an ACCOUNT of the PROCESS of TREATING POOR ORES OF COPPER, successfully used there. By JOSEPH LEE THOMAS, Assoc. I.C.E. London: MINING JOURNAL Office, 26, Fleet-street, E.C.

THE IRON TRADE REVIEW.—The Iron Trade Review is now recognised as the leading organ in which the interests of the iron manufacturers of Great Britain are represented. The aim of the proprietors is to provide a journal which shall be worthy of this important branch of national industry. The following matters receive special attention:—Detailed reports of the state of trade in all the important manufacturing districts, with latest intelligence of meetings, and price lists of pig and finished iron. Occasional notices of the Continental and American trades. Condensed information relative to the proceedings of railways and other public companies which have a bearing upon the iron trade. Notices of scientific improvements applicable to the manufacture of iron. Reports on such labour questions as may arise. Notes on Parliamentary Bills bearing on the trade. In addition to the above, leading articles on important topics appear in each issue, and great care is taken that the information contained in the Review shall be thoroughly reliable. The annual subscription is one guinea, payable in advance. Advertisements are inserted on reasonable terms, which may be ascertained on application.—Published for the proprietors, at the Iron Trade Review office, Middlesbrough-on-Tees; and at 50, Grey-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by M. and M. W. Lambert, printers.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

•• Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

The MINING JOURNAL may be had every Sunday morning of M. L. Nicoud Bellenger, rue Rivoli, 212, Paris. Price 65 centimes. Mr. Nicoud Bellenger also supplies all English and American books and newspapers to order.

SHARE DEALING.—We never interfere in the sale or purchase of shares; neither do we recommend any particular mine for investment or speculation, or broker through whom business should be transacted. The addresses of most of the latter appear in our advertising columns.

THE MINING JOURNAL,
Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, AUGUST 24, 1867.

TUNNELLING BY MACHINERY.

The steam tunnelling machine invented by Mr. HAUPT being one of the prominent exhibits at the Cornwall Polytechnic Society's meeting this week, a brief account of it may not be uninteresting to the readers of the *Mining Journal*. Mr. HAUPT claims thirty years' experience as an engineer, whilst the fact that he was for some years connected with the boring of the great Hoosac Tunnel, which is second only to that of Mont Cenis, has necessarily given him great facilities for practically studying the subject of boring machinery in all its details. In America his abilities have been fully recognised; in the middle of 1861 the Government placed him in charge of the Bureau of Military Railroads, with the title of Chief of Construction and Transportation, with the rank of colonel, and he was raised to that of brigadier-general for the important services he rendered during the battle of Bull's Run. The position of the inventor being acknowledged sufficient to entitle the drill to the careful consideration and thorough investigation of engineers and miners in every country, he hopes that the extreme simplicity and efficiency of the apparatus, its low cost, the direct application of the power, and the rapid and economic progress, as compared with any other mode of conducting such operations, will revolutionise mining and tunnelling throughout the world, and render practicable gigantic operations in engineering which without such means would be classed as impossible.

The drill of Mr. SOMMELIER, in use at the Mont Cenis Tunnel, is regarded by Mr. HAUPT as the nearest approximation to success heretofore, and he takes special care to point out wherein his own is superior. The length of the Mont Cenis drill is 10*1/2* in.; its weight between 600 and 700 lbs., too great to be handled except by machinery; its length permits holes to be drilled only in directions nearly parallel. Its parts are numerous, its liability to derangement great. The cost of repairs is so considerable that the expense of tunnelling exceed the cost by hand labour. The length of Mr. HAUPT's drill is only 32 inches, considerably less than one-third of the Mont Cenis drill; it can be turned in any direction whatever; two machines on the same stand can at the same time drill holes in directions nearly at right angles to each other. It weighs about 125 lbs., and one man can lift and carry it. It is not liable to derangement. The wearing parts are inexpensive, and easily renewed; every part is accessible for oiling. Any one drill can be removed, and another inserted without stopping any other machine. The drilling tools are inserted at the back, and not at the forward end; a minute is sufficient time to take out one and insert another. The cost of tunnelling is expected to be so much less than the cost by hand labour, that a company has recently been organised in the United States to take contracts for tunneling at the cost of hand labour, and they expect to make very large dividends from the profits.

The reciprocating movement in nearly all drilling engines is produced by the to and fro motion of the piston. The points to be determined in connection with this movement are the diameter and stroke of the cylinder and the form of valve. If the drilling tool is connected with the piston, and the blow upon the rock is given by the direct action of air or steam, the pressure per square inch being assumed, the diameter of cylinder necessary to secure any given total pressure is readily determined; a diameter of cylinder of 4*1/2* inches, with a piston-rod of 2*1/2* inches will leave an annular ring of 9*4/10*ths square inches for the power to act upon; a pressure of 60 lbs. per square inch will give a total force upon the piston of 560 lbs., and this is found to be sufficient to strike a blow as hard as the steel used in the drill points can stand. The force of the blow is almost entirely independent of the length of stroke, and it, therefore, follows that the stroke should be as short as will fulfil the other essential conditions of moving the valve, rotating, and feeding. For these purposes 4 inches is found to be a convenient length, and the capacity of the cylinder is determined to be 4*1/2* in. diameter and 4 in. stroke, allowing a breadth of piston of 2*1/2* inches, and a small space for clearance at the ends, the inside length of the cylinder is about 8 inches. Drills constructed with larger cylinders involve a very great and unnecessary waste of power.

For drilling-engines, Mr. HAUPT considers the ordinary form of slide-valve very objectionable. Whatever may be the mode of connection between the piston-rod and valve, the opening into the cylinder must be by a gradual sliding movement, which opens the port for the admission of air or steam into the forward end of the cylinder before the stroke is fully completed, and the blow given upon the rock. It is obvious, therefore, that the steam or air is entering and retarding the velocity of the piston at the very point where it should be greatest. If, under these circumstances, a blow is given of sufficient force to be effective, it must be secured by a wasteful expenditure of power to compensate for the retardation caused by the slide-valve. The valve designed by Mr. HAUPT consists of a tube sliding within a cylindrical steam-chest, and surrounded by rings which fit tightly, and form the rubbing surfaces of the valve. A valve-rod passing through a gland at the forward end of the steam-chest, and connected with the valve either in a rigid manner or by the interposition of springs, to relieve the blow upon the end of the steam-chest. A stop on the valve-rod so adjusted that when the arm or the piston-rod is at the end of the back stroke, it will place the valve in proper position, with the spiral spring compressed around the valve-rod, and the valve fastened by the trigger, which is pressed down by the spring. The trigger has upon it two adjustable stops, which can be placed in such position as to shift the valve at the proper part of the stroke. When the arm commences to move forward it has no effect upon the valve-rod, which remains fastened by the first stop, but when the arm reaches the second stop the trigger is raised, the spring relieved, and the valve-rod instantly projected forward by the recoil of the spring. As the stop is adjustable, the length of stroke may be regulated at pleasure, but the expenditure of steam will not be reduced by shortening stroke, unless a portion of the spaces at the ends of the cylinder be filled with solid material, or the piston lengthened.

The rotation of the drill is effected by a ratchet and two paws, one of which is on the stud to rotate the drill, and the other in the arm to prevent slipping. Mr. HAUPT has employed what he designates a momentum feed, but he has since designed a screw feed, which he considers will be vastly superior. He allows the forward motion of the piston, instead of rotating the nut directly, to compress a spring, which on the back stroke produces the rotation by its recoil, and thus gives the desired movement at a time when there is no strain whatever upon the parts. Mr. HAUPT also proposes special arrangements for erecting and removing the drills, ventilation, and so on, but these are, of course, subjects which may remain for consideration until the efficiency of the drill has been proved; but the subjoined laws, which have been verified at the Franklin Tunnel, and which may be considered at least approximately established, relative to the motion of air in tunnels, will be generally interesting, from their applicability to the ventilation of mines. These laws are those which govern the motion of air in pipes when produced by creating a partial vacuum at one end, and allowing the atmosphere to act freely at the other.—1. The friction in the pipe being left out of consideration, the power requisite to draw a given quantity of air through a pipe of given length will be inversely as the fourth power of the diameter, or inversely as the square of the area.—2. The quantity of air being constant, the power will be as the square of the velocity.—3. The velocity and power being constant, the quantity will be directly as the area.—4. Power and quantity remaining constant, area must increase according to some function of the distance. The first three of these laws, which are independent of friction, are modified by those which follow.—5. The velocity, area, and quantity being constant, the increment of power required to overcome it will be in the same proportion.—6. The experiments at the Mount Cenis Tunnel establish a sixth law, which is this—the loss of tension or resistance is inversely as the diameter. Now, as the number of particles in contact with the surface, as compared with the whole volume, is reduced in proportion as the circumference is increased, this explains the cause of a reduced resistance with an increased frictional surface. It would follow that, quantity and velocity remaining constant, the resistance should be directly as the perimeter. The economy of Mr. HAUPT's machinery is, it appears, quite as much a recommendation as its simplicity and efficiency, and as a very general feeling exists that the invention is well worthy of trial, it may fairly be anticipated that ere long the real value of the invention will have been thoroughly ascertained.

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THE ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES ON "SOUND."

There is a growing desire in this country, as well as on the Continent, for scientific study, as the most certain means of advancing practical progress. We feel, therefore, highly gratified that Prof. TYNDALL, F.R.S., has published in a concise form the eight lectures delivered by him on "Sound," which proved so attractive to his numerous auditors at the Royal Institution of Great Britain.* The study of acoustics, or the doctrine of sound, in connection with hearing, must be interesting to all intelligent persons, and the subject is treated experimentally throughout this volume, so that the reader, by means of sketches and diagrams, illustrating every experiment, is enabled to realise it as an actual operation. Science ought to teach us to study the invisible as well as the visible in nature, and as the air we breathe is the great medium for the production and progress of sound, no subject is more interesting or important than the theory of motion by which it is conveyed in the first instance to the human ear, and thence to the brain—the seat of all sensation. It is the motion imparted by the sunbeam to the optic nerve which, when it reaches the brain, awakens the consciousness of light, and it is similar motion imparted to the auditory nerve which is translated into sound.

Sound travels in waves, and the velocity of its transmission is determined by two conditions—the elasticity and the density of the medium through which it passes. The elasticity of air is measured by the pressure which it sustains in equilibrium; this pressure at the sea level is equal to that of a stratum of mercury about 30 in. high, while on the summit of Mont Blanc the barometric column is not more than half that height, consequently the elasticity of the air at that elevation is not much more than half what it is at the level of the sea. If we could increase the elasticity of the air without at the same time augmenting its density, or if, on the other hand, we could diminish the density, allowing the elasticity to remain stationary, we should augment the velocity of sound, which travels more rapidly through heated than through cold air. The velocity increases about 2 feet per second for every degree centigrade added to the temperature, hence while the distance of a cannon fire, or of a flash of lightning, of which we have lately had such experience, may be determined by observing and calculating the interval that elapses between the flash and hearing the sound; if the velocity of the sound in air be given, the temperature may be also readily ascertained. The velocity of sound also varies in different gases, while in atmospheric air at the freezing point it travels 1089 feet per second; in hydrogen it moves 4164 ft.; and in carbonic acid gas, which is so much heavier, it is reduced to 858 ft. per second. Its velocity through metals also varies materially, while in lead it is only 4030 feet per second; in copper it rises to 11,666 feet, and in iron to 16,822 feet per second. Musical sounds are produced by sonorous vibrations in the air, which follow each other at regular intervals with a sufficient rapidity of succession, and the numerous and highly interesting experiments contained in this instructive volume, prove that while the tuning-fork and sounding-board are the most popular they are also the most efficient agents in the illustration of harmonious cadences and intonations.

The singular but beautifully perfect mechanism of the human ear, the mysterious phenomena of hearing, and the theory by which the vibrations of the air are believed to be in the first instance conveyed to the auditory nerve, and thence to the brain, deduced from the highest authorities, are explained by the highly scientific lecturer with great precision, and in a manner indicative of enquiry and research. The volume is not merely confined to those practical purposes, it will be seen to embrace all the modern discoveries of Prof. WHEATSTONE, of CHLADNI, and of other foreign savans, on the most refined and occult branches of acoustic science, now, we believe, for the first time presented in an attractive form to the British public. Amongst these topics will be found the theory of sounding or singing flames, of the harmonic notes produced by the action of flame, the constitution of, and action of sound on liquid veins, the theory of beats, the action of beats on flame, and sensitive flames in tubes, the harmonic sounds of flame, and the extinction of sound by sound. The most extraordinary novelties, with which few are acquainted, will be found in those pages which treat on the Dintonic Scale, the doctrine and composition of Vibrations, primary as well as sympathetic, as affecting pendulums, together with the optical illustrations and scientific representation of musical intervals. The experimental illustrations by which the general student is made acquainted with the novel and extraordinary results produced by the varied forms in which the agency of sound is introduced may, in all probability, be found available for other and more general purposes of practical science. We regret that our limits preclude us from entering more fully into the numerous and attractive subjects which this interesting volume unfolds, and we strongly recommend its careful perusal to all those who are desirous of becoming acquainted with Acoustics, one of the most remarkable and mysterious branches of scientific study.

* Longmans, Green, and Co.: London, 1867.

WATERPROOFING CARTRIDGES.—According to the invention of Mr. E. C. PRENTICE, of Stowmarket, the

opens a large field for useful research, owing to the enormous benefit which would result from the application of the theory, should it prove to be a sound one.

LONDON COAL DUTIES.—The gross amount of coal duty collected for the Metropolitan Board of Works in 1861 was 178,579*l.*; in 1862, 180,245*l.*; in 1863, 191,069*l.*; in 1864, 197,310*l.*; in 1865, 209,370*l.*; and in 1866, 211,644*l.* After allowing for drawbacks and expenses, the net proceeds available for the purposes of the Metropolitan Board of Works were—in 1861, 159,084*l.*; in 1862, 154,067*l.*; in 1863, 166,144*l.*; in 1864, 171,719*l.*; in 1865, 186,311*l.*; and 1866, 187,102*l.* A smaller coal duty is also collected by the Corporation of London. This duty produced in 1861, 85,033*l.*; in 1862, 80,109*l.*; in 1863, 84,920*l.*; in 1864, 87,693*l.*; in 1865, 93,053*l.*; and in 1866, 94,064*l.* After allowing for drawbacks and expenses, the net proceeds available for the purposes of the Corporation were—in 1861, 75,831*l.*; in 1862, 63,876*l.*; in 1863, 73,842*l.*; in 1864, 76,320*l.*; in 1865, 82,805*l.*; and in 1866, 83,157*l.* The quantity of coal coming within the London coal duty radius in 1861 was 5,232,082 tons; in 1862, 4,973,823 tons; in 1863, 5,127,106 tons; in 1864, 5,476,426 tons; in 1865, 5,909,940 tons; and in 1866, 6,020,182 tons.

MINING, METALS, AND MINERALS—PATENT MATTERS,

BY MICHAEL HENRY,

Patent Agent and Advisor, M. Soc. Arts, Assoc. Soc. Eng.

Mr. DÖRING constructs boring engines in which a distribution of steam, air, or other fluid is required to work different parts of the mechanism at different parts of the stroke of the engine, with one or more cylinders for distributing the steam or other fluid to one or more other cylinders: the piston of the first-named cylinder is worked by a cross-head, or similar appliance, from the piston-rod of the engine. He also constructs engines for boring and working rock and other material with one or more distributing cylinders, to distribute compressed air or other fluid for working the valve of the ordinary cylinder, and the working the pistons of two other cylinders (or either of them), for producing respectively the rotary motion of the ordinary piston and tool, and the advance motion of the engine. He further specifies constructing stands for boring engines with three or more legs, connected to each other like the legs of a tripod, one of such legs being composed of the two side supporting shafts of the engine, and the other legs, or some of them, being telescopic.

Dr. WAX has taken out a patent for some improvements which he states to be partly of his own invention, and partly a communication to him from Capt. Cornwall Henwood. In his specification he states that in the island of Sombrero and elsewhere minerals are found containing phosphate of lime in considerable quantity, but frequently it is mixed with so large a proportion of carbonate of lime as to have little or no commercial value: to bring it into a state suitable for use as manure, more acid would be required than it is commercially practicable to employ. Now, the object of this invention is to remove the carbonate of lime from the phosphate mineral by inexpensive means. For this purpose he burns the mineral in a similar manner to that in which limestone is commonly burnt, and so the carbonate of lime is converted into quicklime. The burnt rock is then slaked with water, and the slaked lime separated from the phosphate by sifting or winnowing with a current of air, or by washing with water, or by these processes combined, according to the pureness of division in which the phosphatic material is found after slaking, and the consequently greater or less difficulty experienced in effecting its separation from the lime. He claims as the improved mode calcining the mineral, slaking the lime, and removing the slaked lime by washing or winnowing.

The recent applications for patents include—EVERIST, Kidderminster, gas.—STURTEVANT, West Roxbury, blowers for furnaces.—JONES, HOWSON, and GIERS, Middlesbrough, puddling and other furnaces for iron.—BETTS, City-road, metallic capsules (two applications).—ORMEROD, Atherton, safety apparatus for mine winding-machinery.—LAKE (communication from Hedenberg, Chicago), metal ties or bands for bales.

PRUSSIAN MINING AND IRONWORKS COMPANY.

The following, being a translation of a notice which appeared in the *Berliner Borsen Zeitung*, of the 16th inst., with a few additional particulars obtained on good authority, will be interesting to the shareholders in the above-named company, many of whom reside in England and Ireland:—

Dortmund, Aug. 14.—All parties concerned in mining operations in our district have for the last 15 or 16 months followed with much interest the formation of the above-named company, and the progress of its operations. The projected undertaking was, without doubt, a bold one, comprising as it did the taking up of three great works which had already been the apparent cause of shipwreck to as many joint-stock companies: the colliery "Hansa," near Hückelhoven; the colliery "Zollern," near Kirchhöfen; and the ironwork "Vulcan," at Duisburg, and the completion and equipping of these works in conjunction with an entirely new colliery, "Erin," near Castrop. The two collieries, Hansa and Zollern, had become notorious for the unusual difficulties encountered in the sinking of the shafts, owing to the enormous quantity of water met with in the marl formation; and so great and almost insurmountable were those difficulties supposed to be, that the works had been allowed to lie still for about seven years, since the failure of the first companies, and no purchaser could be found for the properties upon any terms. The projectors of the above company acquired these two colliers, as well as the Vulcan Ironworks, with its iron mines, all upon very low terms—indeed, little more than one-fourth of their original cost. The undertaking was, therefore, one which, if *successful at all*, might be expected to be a great success, owing to the comparatively very small capital upon which profits would have to be divided; but the difficulties to be overcome being so well known, it required an immense amount of confidence in the management of the concern to induce capitalists to come forward with the necessary funds. It appears that such a confidence did exist, and was acted upon by the shareholders, who have promptly met the demands upon them, and that at a time, too, when any new undertaking which was not founded on the most solid basis must have entirely failed. The results now to be reported prove how entirely that confidence was justified.

The company was constituted at a general meeting held at Dusseldorf, on May 1, 1866. In the same month the industrial and mercantile world was thrown into confusion by the apprehensions of a great war. The war itself followed, with all its results, so glorious for the country, and, without doubt, so advantageous for the future and permanent prospects of all industrial undertakings, but so trying and calamitous for the momentary operations of all trade and industry, and from the effects of which we have by no means yet recovered. Nevertheless, the company proceeded steadily and vigorously with its important works, and its exertions have been crowned with great success. Since the last few days the flags waving above the new shaft at the Hansa Colliery have indicated the final overcoming of all difficulties at that winning. The shaft has been successfully sunk to the depth of 43 fathoms (a Prussian fathom is about 6 ft. 10 1/2 in. English measure), through the great feeder of water, into the solid and dry stratum below them, and all the water has been completely shut out by the cast-iron tubing, upon the English system, which was first introduced into this country with such well-known advantages at the collieries Hibernia and Shamrock, and has been since adopted successfully in several other works. The further sinking of the Hansa shaft to the coal measures, through the green and white marl (in which it has been ascertained by boring that no important feeders of water are to be met with) presents no difficulties whatever, and there is, therefore, every reason to expect that this fine work, which has so long lain dead, impressing all who saw it with the painful feeling of looking at a great commercial as well as a technical failure, shall be producing coal in the early part of next year.

At Erin Colliery, near Castrop, where the work is an entirely new one, commenced by this company last year, the progress of the shaft sinking has been very rapid and successful. There are here two shafts, each of 14 ft. diameter, sunk very close together (48 ft. from centre to centre), with a view to provide ample for all the requirements of ventilation, deep pumping, and coal drawing upon a large scale, the colliery being looked upon as one of great importance, being in the direct continuation of the well-known Gelsenkirchen and Herne coal basin, and there being a depth of about 100 fathoms of marl over the coal measures, so that the first main working level will be at a depth of about 150 fathoms. The shafts were sunk for the first 8 or 10 fathoms through running sand and soft marl, by means of sink-walls, and they have both been completed through the water-bearing portion of the marl with cast-iron tubing to the depth of about 25 fathoms, at which depth it was found practicable to shut off all the marl water. The further sinking of the shafts, through a stratification which has been proved by boring to be free of water, is carried on without any pumping, and the shafts are finished with a walling of formed bricks, of a fire-proof quality, made at the brickworks belonging to the Hibernia Colliery. No. 1 shaft is now nearly 60 fathoms, and No. 2 about 32 fathoms deep. In the month of July about 16 1/2 fathoms of shaft were sunk and walled complete, and as the sinking of No. 1 shaft is now being proceeded with at a similarly rapid rate, it is expected that the coal measures will be reached before the end of the present year.

The Zollern Colliery had not been definitely acquired at the time the company was constituted, and the funds for its purchase and exploitation were not provided for in the first issue of shares, in amount of 120,000*l.* According to the financial plan of the company, and the provisions contained in its statutes, a second issue of 60,000*l.* was to take place for that purpose, as soon as the first series of shares should be fully paid up. This second issue of shares is now about to be made, as announced by the council of supervision, in the advertisement of July 20 last; and the company having, in the meantime, concluded the purchase, and taken possession of the Zollern property, all preparatory arrangements were made for proceeding with the shaft-sinking; and now that the difficulties at Hansa have been overcome, no time has been lost in commencing operations at Zollern. The difficulties here are considered to be much less formidable than those at Hansa, the depth from which the water has to be pumped being little more than half so great, and the engine-power being amply sufficient. It is,

therefore, confidently expected that one of the present shafts may be completed so as to shut off the water in a comparatively short time; and as the additional depth to be sunk to the coal formation is only about 25 fathoms, it is not improbable that the Zollern Colliery may be ready for coal working nearly as soon as its sister collieries, Hansa and Erin. These three collieries comprise a connected complex of 30 concessions, or about 7500 English acres. The quantity of workable coal may be looked upon as inexhaustible for many generations to come, even for five or six great collieries; while the three at present in progress, being each on the most extensive scale known in this country, with two shafts of 14 ft. diameter, and ample steam and engine-power, will be capable of producing such a quantity of coal as, even under unfavourable circumstances, should secure a considerable profit upon a capital so moderate as that of this company.

The Vulkan Ironworks at Duisburg have been in operation with one blast-furnace since the month of October, 1865, with the exception of four months during the war period of last year. A second furnace is ready to be put in blast in a month or two, and the foundry has been kept in full operation, furnishing, amongst other castings, those required for the cast-iron tubings of the new shafts at the coal workings belonging to the company, as well as for other shafts belonging to the Royal Saltworks at Stassfurt, the Colliery Von der Heydt at Berne, Hibernia at Gelsenkirchen, &c. On the whole, the shareholders of the company have every reason to congratulate themselves upon the progress made in the first year of its operations.

REPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

AUG. 22.—The Coal and Coke Trades have improved a little, and will, no doubt, continue to improve as the season advances. The shipping at the north-eastern ports has also been better employed of late, and altogether trade generally has a more hopeful appearance. The Iron Trade prospects are also considered to be a little better, but actual improvement has hardly reached here yet, indeed the only improvement noticeable is in manufactured iron, machines, &c. The stocks of pig-iron are still on the increase, especially at Middlesbrough.

I last week briefly noticed the very interesting ceremony which took place at Dinnington on the 14th inst.—the cutting of the first sod as the commencement of a new shaft to be sunk in connection with the Seaton Burn Colliery. The ceremony was more particularly interesting from the fact that it was the first public act of Mrs. C. M. Palmer, who cut the sod. The new shaft is to be a large one, from which a large quantity of coal is expected to be got, and a number of houses are to be built of the most comfortable kind for the workmen on the spot. The Seaton Burn Colliery has been worked a number of years, mainly for steam coal, a large quantity of which, of the best quality, has been produced here. The coal seams dip in the direction of Dinnington, and hence the new shaft will prove of the greatest advantage to the works, as the coal and also water will be readily got to it, and powerful engines will be erected for the purpose of drawing them.

After the ceremony of cutting the first sod was completed, the people assembled (including a large number of men employed at the works) were addressed by Mr. C. Palmer. He said that the shaft is intended to put out from 800 to 1000 tons of coal per day, and explained the general arrangements of the works. He then adverted to the erection of houses for the men, which, he said, will be superior to any yet erected in the mining districts. This is certainly a hopeful feature; where new houses are now erected they are of a much superior kind to those formerly erected. He also said that after a man has fulfilled his duty by working a fair day's work, he is entitled to have his home as comfortable as it can be made. And as he saw a large number of the fair sex there, they would, perhaps, allow him to express his opinion upon their duty. A grave responsibility attaches to them in making their homes happy and comfortable, by keeping them clean and orderly. Success was afterwards drank to the Dinnington Colliery—that is, the Augusta Pit—amid loud cheers, and the men adjourned to the public-houses in the village, where they also drank success to this important undertaking.

It will be apparent that the Coal Trade here continues to show evident signs of renewed activity. The number of new works projected or commenced sufficiently attest the general healthy state of the trade, and also the determination of the owners that when a full demand comes the means of supplying that demand shall not be wanting.

A new colliery is projected near the celebrated Monkwearmouth Colliery. Fifteen acres of land have been purchased near Roker (that is, to the north-east of the present extensive works), and this is to be the site of the new works, the object being to work mainly the coal under the docks and the sea. A large quantity of coal is expected to be got here under the North Sea, of the best quality, and as the depth is great no apprehension is felt as to any danger from water. A new colliery has also been projected near Ryhope some time, but the works have not yet been commenced; but on the completion of the second shaft at Ryhope there is no doubt that this concern will also go forward.

A supper was given to the officials of the Plashett's Colliery on Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Plashett's Inn. In the absence of Mr. Wardle, the viewer of the colliery, the chair was taken by Mr. Geo. Hall, overman, the vice-chairs being filled by Mr. Wm. Black and Mr. G. Hepple. A most harmonious and agreeable meeting was held, and the usual toasts were proposed and heartily responded to. This concern is situated on the North Tyne, on what is known as the Plashett's Coal Field, supposed to be a continuation of the Northumberland and Durham Coal Field; but it is yet comparatively unknown, as it has not as yet been much explored.

The agents and workmen of Messrs. John Abbot and Co. (Limited), Park Works, Gateshead, have presented Mr. William Dinning, on his leaving the works to take the management of the Percy Ironworks, Newcastle-on-Tyne, with a splendid gold watch and appendages. The presentation was made by Mr. Robert Gibson.

The workmen employed at the North Bitchburn and Roughlee Collieries, near Bishop Auckland, the property of Messrs. Hopkins, Stobart, and Co., together with their wives and sweethearts, numbering over 1000, were on Saturday treated to a substantial dinner and tea by the owners, the North Bitchburn Coal Company. Mr. H. S. Stobart, of Witton Tower, said that as was the twenty-first anniversary of the North Bitchburn Coal Company he was most happy to meet all his workmen; and he, as the managing partner, had to congratulate them on the fact that since these works began there had been fewer differences amongst them than at any other colliery in the district. He believed that if such gatherings as these oftener took place amongst masters and their workmen there would be fewer strikes, and no call for Unions; and he trusted they would all meet under similar circumstances again.

THE REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MINES has just been issued, and it contains much valuable information, and many suggestions of value, which will, no doubt, be adopted either wholly or in part, when future legislation takes place on this important subject. The first recommendation of the Committee is that boys are not to be employed in mines under 12 years of age, and this exactly meets the views of the masters here, and also the better class of workmen; indeed, it has been the practice here since the passing of the Act of Parliament of Aug. 28, 1860, to carry this out as far as practicable, the only difficulty being that the more needy class of workmen will have the boys in under 12 if possible. The clauses in the Act of 1860, respecting education, certificates, &c., have been almost a dead letter. The restriction of the employment of boys under any circumstances to those who have completed 12 years would be the most simple and judicious plan possible. Boys under that age are not of much value underground, and they have a chance of being kept at school until the age of 12 years to acquire some education suitable for them, which ought certainly to be supplemented by further culture at a night school. The attendance at the night school ought to be for (say) three nights per week. Unless this is attended to the knowledge acquired previous to entering the mine will be speedily lost, and the boy will fall into a state of "pit barbarism," but too well known. This night education ought to be continued until the age of 16 years. It is thought by many that the education of boys ought to be compulsory, and unless this is done the general decent education of the workmen of this country will never be achieved; at any rate, we are very far from being in a satisfactory state at present in this respect. (To be continued.)

SUNDERLAND WATER COMPANY.—Mr. George Hardcastle sold by auction in Sunderland on Friday, by order of the directors, 1200 new shares in the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company. Before raising the hammer, Mr. Hardcastle stated that the additional capital was required to complete the important extension of works at Ryhope, rendered necessary by the rapidly increasing demand for water throughout the large area included under the powers of the company's Acts. He showed that the natural supply of water within that area might be regarded as practically inexhaustible, when it was known that in winning the Murton Colliery there was required to keep down the water a pumping power of 1500 horses, raising 10,000 gallons per minute, or about 14,500,000 per day. The colliery was won without in the slightest degree affecting the wells of the Sunderland Water Works, the geological stratification of which, though a continuation of the Murton, is about 200 ft. lower. Twenty years ago the pumping power of the Sunderland Company was equal to only 200,000 gallons per day; now it raises twenty times as much, and when the Ryhope works are in operation the company will have 6,000,000 gallons of water for daily distribution. Twenty years ago the company's customers were 800; now they are 40,000, and sub-distrbute the purest spring water to a population of about 200,000 people, more than half so great, and the engine-power being amply sufficient. It is, | Twenty years ago the company's revenue was considerably under 2000*l.* a year,

now it is 25,000*l.* Mr. Hardcastle further said that to show the solid value of the company's shares he might be permitted to mention, that while the 500,000 capital of another large water company in a populous town and district, yielded but 27,000*l.* of revenue, and a dividend of 4 per cent., the Sunderland capital of less than 200,000*l.* produced a revenue of 20,000*l.*, and a dividend of 9 1/2 per cent., which would doubtless soon rise to 10 per cent. The sale then proceeded, and in 10 minutes the 51 shares were eagerly bought up in 32 lots, at the following prices:—445 shares, at 9*l.* 4*s.*—409*l.*; 423 shares, at 9*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*—390*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*; 332 shares, at 9*l.* 5*s.*—307*l.*; 1290 shares realised 11,067*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, or an average price of close upon 9*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* for a 51 share.—*Northern Daily Express.*

REPORT FROM MONMOUTH AND SOUTH WALES.

AUG. 22.—No material alteration has taken place in the Iron Trade during the past week. As far as actual transactions are concerned, the home trade continues remarkably quiet, and there is no particular animation to note in foreign demand, although far below what they were a few months ago; but there is a probability of an increase taking place in the demand. As already remarked, makers place great hopes on the result of the passing of the several bills to relieve the railway companies from their financial difficulties, and they expect that there will be considerable rail requirements in the markets in the course of the present month. A large number of miles of railways required renewal, and it is quite clear that ere long contracts for the same must be given out. There is a fair demand for bars of repute, and a slight improvement has taken place in the sale of pigs.

The iron-making branch of the Blaina, Cwm Celyn, and Coalbrook Vale Works has been stopped, as contrary to all expectations, the efforts made to sell the concern have failed, and the Inspectors, under the circumstances, felt they had no alternative but to stop that branch of the concern. A large meeting of the workmen has been held, and, after paying a warm tribute of respect to Mr. Levick as a master, it was resolved to wait upon Mr. Abraham Darby, of the Ebbw Vale Company, and ask him to keep on the works. Mr. Darby was from home when the deputation called at his house, but as the Ebbw Vale Company are pretty well stocked with ironworks at the present time, and taking into consideration the unremunerative prices for iron, it is not at all likely that the wishes of the deputation will be complied with. There is a good business doing in Tin-Plates, and there is no hesitation on the part of buyers to make purchases.

The little change to note in the Steam Coal Trade is on the side of sellers, and although a degree of slackness still prevails, it is not so bad as was the case a month or six weeks ago. The advices also from the continental markets are not so discouraging, as it is not improbable that before long some revival will take place. About the usual quantity is being sent to the mail packet stations; but it cannot be said that any particular animation prevails, even in this branch. To a certain extent the efforts made to increase the sales at Birkenhead have been successful, and it is evident that both the railway companies and the colliery proprietors will do their utmost to further increase this trade. Coastwise there is an average business doing in house qualities, and preparations are already being made by buyers for the winter season. For coke the demand is slow, and the works are but indifferently employed.

At the Monmouthshire Wagon Company half-yearly meeting, on Wednesday, Mr. T. Gratex in the chair, a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the half-year just ended was declared. The profits of the company would have enabled the directors to have declared a larger dividend, had it not been that some exceptional expenses were required to be met.

At the Gloucester Wagon Company meeting, to be held on Tuesday, day, a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum will be declared, and there will then remain a balance of 11,202*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, which the directors proposed to deal with as follows:—To transfer to guarantee fund 3000*l.*, and to carry to next account 8292*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

The Taff Vale Railway directors have determined on recommending a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, as compared

defendant. The action was brought to recover £7. 10s., being the hire of certain trucks. The trucks in question had been hired by the defendant for many years. This year notice was given by defendant that the trucks would not be required after March 31, and they would be delivered to the plaintiffs at Bullo Pill, on the South Wales Railway. Soon afterwards the trucks were claimed by a Mr. Jos. Bennett, of Littledean, under a mortgage to him, with others, as security for £1000 advanced to Messrs. Shackleford. The sum claimed was for rent since March 31. After a long conversation between the judge and advocates engaged, a verdict was taken for plaintiffs, subject to certain conditions. It was generally believed the matter would be referred to a barrister to decide the legal and equitable rights of the parties, and also as to the right of ownership, it being considered that Mr. Bennett would be one of the interested parties.

In addition to the favourable state of the coal and iron trades, the tin trade continues in much the same healthy and satisfactory state as reported last and preceding weeks. The other branches of Forest industry manifest activity in all their departments.

REPORT FROM NORTH AND SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

AUG. 22.—There is no change to notice in the Iron Trade, and it is satisfactory that such flow as the tide has taken has not been followed by an ebb. Some of the works are fairly employed, but many are still short of orders, and a considerable further extent of improvement is necessary before the trade in either district of the county can be reported to be even moderately active. There are good orders for hoops, and also for thin sheets, but the plate-mills are still doing little. The makers of galvanised iron are busy. The Hardware Trades of South Staffordshire must be reported dull, and in some branches very slack.

Two men were killed by an explosion at the Cinder Hill Colliery, near Longton, on Tuesday afternoon. Two months ago there was a fire in the Yard seam of coal, and, in order to extinguish it, the downcast shaft was closed by a scaffold, so as to cut off the supply of air, and thus extinguish the fire. On Monday morning the scaffold was removed, and Mr. James Williams, one of the partners, and one of the men, descended the shaft as far as the Yard seam, and came to conclusion that the fire had ceased. On Tuesday morning, however, smoke was seen, and, to prevent the air reaching it, a close scaffold was made about 28 yards from the bottom of the pit, and on this three men were at work on Tuesday. One of them went up to get his dinner, and whilst eating it an explosion occurred, which displaced the scaffold, and thus the two men were precipitated to the bottom of the shaft, one falling into the sump, and the other upon an iron plate. The recovery of the bodies was attended with considerable difficulty and danger. At an inquest this afternoon, Mr. Wynne, the Inspector of Mines, who was at the place on the day of the accident, was present. The above facts were spoken to, and Mr. Williams stated that there had never been an explosion in the pit before. Mr. Wynne was of opinion that sufficient care had not been employed in isolating the place, and the jury, whilst returning a verdict of "Accidental Death," recommended more care in the management of the pits in future.

A man died on Friday last from the effects of a fall of 1½ cwt. of coal from the roof at the Mear Hey Colliery, near Longton, on Aug. 2. The authorities of the pottery towns are perplexed what to do with their sewage. These towns, with some 130,000 inhabitants, all naturally drain into the Trent, or into affluents of that river, and all of these, including the Lyne, from Newcastle-under-Lyne, which is not one of the Pottery towns, enter the river before it reaches Trentham, where stands the princely mansion of the Duke of Sutherland, with its lovely gardens and its noble wooded park. Until it reaches Trentham the river and its affluents have a considerable descent, but in the grounds of his Grace the channel becomes level, and the water expands into small lakes, which form a striking element in the picturesque beauty of the gardens. The excrementitious and other refuse of 130,000 people, with the various works carried on in a busy district, begin to stagnate, to ferment, and to stink—that is the only word—in the grounds of Trentham Hall, and a horrid scum often covers the water which has such fair banks, and which, if it were not a sort of thick soup, would reflect the palatial edifice. It is evident that this cannot continue, and Mr. Elliott, civil engineer, who acts for the Duke, has suggested to the local authorities a plan for the main outfall sewer, to be constructed at the cost of the whole population of these towns, and which would enable them to carry the sewage below Trentham, and there discharge it over the land, rendering that increasingly fertile by imparting to it the elements which now pollute the streams.

Mr. R. Baker, Inspector of Factories, reports very favourably of the working of the Acts in the Potteries, and states that 3000 children are now at work in the district under the half-time system, the very strongest proof of the acceptance of the principle of the Act, as this half-time system is always condemned as hopelessly impracticable.

The attention of ironmasters in South Staffordshire has been recently directed to the process invented by Mr. Heaton, of the Langley Mills, Nottingham, for purifying pig-iron, and converting it into a kind of steel. The following is a brief description of the process:—

"The mode of procedure is to place from 7 to 9 lbs. of nitrate of soda in a movable bottom, which, with a perforated iron plate over the salt, is clamped to a cylindrical converter, lined with fire-bricks, and having an upright funnel to carry off the products of combustion. A charge of about 14 cwt. is run into this converter from a cupola. Rapid combustion takes place for about two minutes and a half. At first ruddy fumes, arising from the decomposed nitrate, are given off. The flame then becomes bluish, and finally dark coloured, after which series of sharp explosions follow in rapid succession, and brilliant sparks are given off, something similar to the scintillations observable in the Bessemer process. When the action has subsided the metal is run into ingots."

The metal thus produced has a porous character, and looks more like chilled cast-iron than anything else. It is said that a substance closely resembling steel has been made by this process, but the experiments do not seem to have been yet conducted with that systematic accuracy which is desirable before the results can be relied on. The trade will await with much interest the further experiments in progress, and the publication of analyses showing the nature of the products obtained by this chemical process. Already several Staffordshire firms have taken up the matter, and are said to be satisfied of the value of the process. They intend to apply it specially to the purification of the cinder now produced extensively here.—*Wolverhampton Chronicle.*

REPORT FROM DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

AUG. 22.—There is a very slight improvement at some of the works in South Derbyshire, so that there is, in fact, no alteration to note with regard to trade generally. A good deal of interest is just now excited in the progress of the direct line of railway between Chesterfield and Sheffield. Why the great mistake was made in the first instance of allowing the main line to leave Sheffield out has never been satisfactorily explained; the Midland Company, however, are now correcting the mistake, although, no doubt, at a very large increase in the cost. The line will be very heavy one, the Bradway tunnel being no less than 2040 yards in length. The excavations are made from eight shafts, and up to the present time upwards of 1600 yards have been made. About half-way there is another piece of work, consisting of a viaduct across the valley of the Drone; it will be composed of seven arches, 60 feet high, and 110 yards long. On the route of the line several new collieries are about to be opened at it, so that the district through which the railway passes will be found a profitable one. The trade of Sheffield continues quiet, the ironmakers in particular being badly off for orders, and the same may be said with regard to most of the light branches of the steel trade.

In South Yorkshire there is a continued improvement, and some good orders have just now found their way into the districts, for rails in particular, in which for a considerable time very little has been done. At Milton there is a very good business being done in sheets, bars, and hoops, whilst at Elsecar the rail mill is kept fully going. The furnaces on the Lincolnshire side of the Trent are doing well, whilst several new ones are about to be built. Bessemer rails continue to be largely manufactured both for home and foreign lines. The demand for coal continues moderate; but there is not much doing to Hull, owing to the few vessels trading between that port and the North of Europe. To Grimsby business is rather better, and there is more doing in gas coal for various parts of the country. Coke is not in such brisk request as it has been, and at some of the largest establishments there are now considerable stocks on hand.

There is nothing new to state with regard to the Oaks Colliery; operations have been suspended for more than a week, as the stuff has been got out to within a few feet of the bottom, so that nothing more could be done until the mining engineers, in whose hands the colliery may be said to be, have resolved on the next step to be taken. The meeting is to take place on Saturday morning next, at the col-

liery, when a decision will be come to as to the best means of entering the workings and clearing them, so as to reclaim the bodies.

Mr. John Brown, of the Atlas Works, Sheffield, has received the honour of knighthood. Sir John Brown commenced business not a great number of years ago in a small way as an iron manufacturer, and by his perseverance has succeeded in making an immense fortune, which he largely devotes to the promotion of benevolent and religious objects. His works have gradually increased in extent, until they rank as one of the largest iron factories in the country and closely rival the stupendous establishment of Herr Krupp. John Brown's armour-plates are known all over the world, and the largest plate ever rolled was rolled at the Atlas Works, in the presence of the Prince of Wales. The works are now the property of a limited company, but the founder of them is largely interested in their prosperity. Sir John Brown worthily takes his place among the giants of British industrial enterprise.

FEARFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION—LOSS OF FOURTEEN LIVES.

A dreadful explosion occurred on Tuesday, at Messrs. Bromilaw and Co.'s Garswood Colliery, Ashton, near St. Helens, Lancashire. This accident is the more appalling from the fact that a dreadful explosion occurred in the same mine on May 13, 1866, whereby 13 men lost their lives. The Garswood Colliery consists of four mines, to each of which a separate shaft works. That in which the explosion occurred is called the Little Delf Mine, and is the deepest, being 450 yards in depth. The explosion was in a distant and remote part of the mine, 1000 yards from the shaft. The part is known as "the top level," and runs in the direction of Garswood Park. It is considerably higher than any other part of the mine, and is consequently more dangerous, as the gas rises to that part from the other workings. At the time of the accident 14 men and boys were engaged working in the top level, all of whom have perished; and it is a most providential circumstance that more lives have not been lost, as at the time the miners were all at work in the pit, but it is owing to the high level being very remote, and no other work being carried on in that part. The explosion was not heard in the pit very far from where it occurred, but its serious nature was at once feared, and the whole of the works were immediately stopped and the men withdrawn from the mines without delay. A volunteer exploring party was formed, which consisted of Thomas Molyneux, sen., under manager; Thos. Molyneux, jun., under manager; William Tickle, top manager, and a party of colliers, and shortly after the explosion they proceeded on their search, and after hours of toil they succeeded in recovering the whole of the 14 bodies, which were on being found removed to the bottom of the shaft, and not brought up to the pit mouth until night. The cause of the explosion can never positively be known; but it is conjectured that it was caused by the fireman (Topping) exploding a charge of gunpowder for Chestworth, as it is known he was to do so about the time of the accident. Strange to say, the explosion in May, 1866, when 13 lives were lost, was caused by Topping firing a charge, when he escaped; but he has now perished.

THE EXPERIMENTS WITH SAFETY-LAMPS.—One of the events of the season, so far as regards the coal interest of the district, is, undoubtedly, the experiments for testing the safety of the various lamps in use in collieries. Last week, at the Barnsley Gasworks, all lamps, including the Stephenson, were made to explode; but since then, to more effectually test them, a place has been fitted up at the Oaks Colliery. On Monday last several experiments were made, the gas being taken from the 9-in. pipe down the No. 2 shaft, and conveyed by a pipe to the mechanics' shop, where the apparatus was fixed. Amongst those present were—Mr. Cooper, the manager of Earl Fitzwilliam's Collieries; Mr. T. Dymond, the Oaks; and Mr. Jackson, Kirkstone Fall. Several Davy and Clanny lamps were tested, and found to be ineffectual in resisting the power of the gas and the current of air, for after being in a few seconds the gauze gradually got to a red heat, and then exploded. The Stephenson was then tried, but it resisted stoutly. Tested in every way it would not explode, but, after flickering for a minute or so, went out. Another lamp, by a Birmingham maker, also stood well, and did not explode, but gradually went out. So far, although at the gasworks the Stephenson was made to explode, still the test at the Oaks, on Monday, shows that it is, in reality, a safety-lamp, and about the only one that can be safely used in collieries making gas. Other experiments will be made for more effectually testing the Stephenson by Mr. Wilson, in the presence of the mining viewers of the district, but there is a very strong opinion that the lamp will maintain its reputation. It would, however, be premature to say more at present, as the experiments will be the means of finally settling a very important question, which has caused so much interest throughout the country, seeing that the safety of so many thousand persons are involved in the subject.

REPORT FROM SCOTLAND.

AUG. 21.—Pig-Iron is better this week, with more disposition to purchase, and prices are again hardening. Some makers of g.m.b. are short of iron, and are pressed for delivery; warrants are not over plentiful either; and delivery from stores ranges between 4000 and 5000 tons a day. This drain, if continued, will enhance the price of both warrants and makers' iron, and merchants are not without hope that a more remunerative business will be done in the autumn than

was done in the summer months of this year. Our trade with America, both direct and *via* Liverpool, is of a cheering nature, and is aiding our shipments, which for the week ending yesterday were 15,960 tons, against 13,460 tons in the same week of last year. The market was steady to-day, and a few thousand tons changed hands at 53s. 4d. cash, closing firm 53s. 6d. a month. Some of the makers have to advance their price 9d. a ton, owing to the shipping demand. Gartsherrie, 61s.; Coltness, 59s. 6d.; Summerlee, 58s. 6d.; g.m.b., No. 1, 54s. 3d.; No. 3, 53s. 3d. Finished iron is considerably improved, and majority of the works are running full time, some of them being busy with orders, principally for shipment, the home demand being rather quiet. Some of our ironfounders are exceedingly slack, while makers of certain classes of pipes, now in demand, are fully employed. Shipbuilding iron is without change. Plates, 8l. 2s. 6d.; angle-iron, 7l. 5s.; bars, 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 5s.; nail-rods, 7l. 5s., less usual discount. Coals are in fair demand for steam and household use, at 6s. 9d. to 7s. 9d. a ton, according to quality. The export trade is in healthy condition, our shipments for the week just ended being 29,950 tons, whereas in the corresponding week of last year they only reached 23,790 tons, which is fully 6000 tons in favour of this year. According to arrangements, which we formerly alluded to, a small detachment of Cornish miners arrived at the Motherwell Junction of the Caledonian Railway last week, for the Wishaw coal fields. This fact having become known to the colliers on strike in the district, the Cornishmen were waylaid, and having been cozened by those who were deputed to take the task in hand, after attending a miners' meeting, were persuaded to return home without ever having gone down a pit. The company who were instrumental in bringing them hither was prepared to give them employment either in the working pits of the firm, in a pit by themselves, or in the pits of the Glasgow Iron Company, their wages being guaranteed for one month at the rate of 4s. 6d. per day. One would have thought that starving Cornish miners would have paused before throwing such an offer over their shoulders. And it should not be disguised, that if Trades Unions are to have the power of intercepting workmen on the way to their employment, and thus interfering with the productive power of the country, and the employment of the inhabitants, it appears to be almost a self-evident proposition that Government will have to regulate and control such power, so as to render it innocuous. In these circumstances, Messrs. Scott and Gilmour made a proposal to the men on strike, which was at once accepted, to regulate the wages for the next twelve months thus—

"During the remainder of August, as also September and October, 4s. 6d. per day; during November, December, January, and February, 5s. per day; March and April, 4s. 6d. per day; May, June, July, and August, 4s. per day."

As compared with the wages which the men had been getting, the rate offered for the next two months represents a rise of about 6d. per day. The amount paid during the summer has averaged 4s. 6d. per day, but this included powder, whereas the 4s. 6d. now to be allowed is, we believe, exclusive of that item. Mr. Russell has agreed with his men on the same terms, and already agitation has commenced in the other districts for the same tariff. Of course, it is very evident that those masters who are willing to accept of these terms will have their pits filled with hands, but will the ironmasters agree to these prices? or rather is it possible that they can concede these wages to their colliers when several pits here and there have to be let alone, as they cannot be worked at the present rate of wages? A proposal has been set on foot to bind all coalmasters and colliers by a special minute of agreement, which contains the following provision:—

"In the event of any unusual depression or activity taking place in the trade to such an extent as may seem to warrant a change in the above rates, we agree that a meeting shall be called of representatives from the employers and workmen to consider the circumstances that demand such alteration, and that before a strike or 'lock-out' is resorted to on either side the matter in dispute shall be submitted to a neutral party to adjudicate between the two."

How the body of coalmasters may look on this proposition we shall know in a week or so, but we have reason to fear that the ironmasters will neither accept of the tariff of wages, nor of the minute of

agreement in its present shape. In the meantime it should be known throughout the length and breadth of the land that Cornish miners will not accept remunerative labour, freely offered to them, because it will isolate them from Trades Unions, which all but compel their members to restrict their work to eight hours a day, and their week to four days, in order that the price of their labour may be enhanced, at the expense of the trade of the country and the private resources of the community.

Shipbuilding on the Clyde is not improving, although an occasional hull is laid down. Messrs. W. Denny and Brothers, Dumbarton, have contracted to build for the Viceroy of Canton, China, two composite gunboats, of 350 tons each, with engines of 60-horse power.

Scotland can boast of her pebbles and fine specimens of quartz in the form of perfect crystals, varying in colour from pure white to amber and a deep brown. Our native pebbles are of singular conformations, and are of all colours—red, green, grey, auburn, yellow, and also of the jasper kind with a mixture of colours. A curious phenomenon connected with the colour of pebbles is, that each colour is found only in distinct localities. Pebbles are found in every county of Scotland, but more plentifully in Ayrshire, Argyleshire, Aberdeenshire, Perthshire, and Morayshire, Roxburghshire, and Mid-Lothian. There is the Arthur Seat jasper, found on Arthur's Seat; the Pentland pebble on the Pentland Hills; the Perthis, bloodstone on the Ochil and Moncrieff Hills; the Montrose grey pebble at Montrose, and so on. A small rivulet in the land of Burns contributes one of the richest and finest specimens of jasper that is to be found in Scotland. The Arthur Seat jasper deserves special notice, being rich in colour and variegated in streaks. It is found in large quantities on the face of the hill. On the top, found in great abundance. Not many years ago the Scotch amethyst could be plentifully procured and cheaply purchased, but now it is becoming scarce, and brings in the market from 50s. to 60s. per ounce. Another favourite Scotch crystal is the garnet. It has a red or port-wine colour, and is found in very small quantities, of no great size, at Elie Point and along the sands on the coast of Fife. A jewel in which the yellow californium, the blue amethyst, and the pink or red garnet are harmoniously combined, is remarkably fine. Our moss agate is not the least beautiful and valuable of gems; and for certain styles of setting it is peculiarly suitable. But the chief of our Scottish gems is the pearl. There was a tiara finely set in gold and enamel in the Dublin Exhibition, valued at 5000l., made of Scotch pearls. Fine specimens of pearls are found in the Rivers Forth, Toviot, Clyde, Earn, Tay, Tweed, and the Rivers of Ross and Sutherland. A fine specimen not larger than a pea will bring 25s., and larger ones will command at times as much as 80s. or 90s.

SILVER MINING IN MEXICO.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MINING JOURNAL."]

SIR,—In the Journal of July 20 you published some particulars respecting a company which is being formed for working the silver mines of Espinosa, Salaguena, and Demasias, situated at San Antonio, in Mexico. In compliance with the wish of a friend, I enclose to you a communication, recently received from the United States, which will be read with interest by those concerned in that undertaking, and also by many other of your readers.

I may add that Mr. Chynoweth, who has recently arrived from Mexico, stated, at the meeting of the San Pedro del Monte Mining Company, a few days since, in reply to Major-General Jacob, that there was no danger whatever of being interfered with in pushing on mining operations in Mexico—indeed, less so now than when the Imperialists were in power: the Liberals have always shown every kindness to those engaged in industrial occupations, and the interests of the whole country are in favour of protection to the miner. Mining must, therefore, now progress in Mexico.

A READER.

On Sept. 8, 1546, Juan de Tolosa, one of the lieutenants of Cortez, reached the Zacatecas Sierra without much opposition from the natives. It was not long before he discovered the universal richness of the district, and induced some of his companions, among them Balthasar Tremino, Cristobal Onate, and Diego de Ibarra, to form a settlement with him. This was done on March 21, 1548, and the mine of Alvarado was opened upon the celebrated Vetagrande, or Great River. On June 11, of the same year, they opened the San Bernabé Mine, and on Nov. 1, the Tajo de Pánuco, openings of Panuco. The mines proved so productive, and gave such vigour to the settlement, that in 1558, only 40 years after the settlement was made, the title of "noble and loyal city" was conceded to Zacatecas, and a coat of arms given to it. The first mine that was opened, the Alvarado, was worked for a long time by Fernando Cortés, and in the State archives are found the books which he kept of all the expenses and returns during that period. They are very curious old documents, and are illustrative of the exactness with which all the accounts of the old Spaniards were kept. In those times, the oldest formation found here is the sienite, and upon this rests the great slate formation. In which, towards the north, are found nearly all the great metalliferous veins. An occasional stratum of siliceous slate, grauwacke, and other characteristic transition rocks are to be found. To the south are found two kinds of transition porphyry, but one is older than the other, the youngest resting upon the slate and alternating with it. These formations of porphyry are in Mexico generally poor in metalliferous veins, with rare exceptions, such as Pachuca, Real del Monte, Real del Chico, Zimapán, Angangueo, and Huantla. In these the porphyry is eminently metalliferous. Upon the slate and slate are found the formations of secondary limestone—one to the north-east the other to the north-west of Zacatecas, the latter being the most extensive. The metalliferous veins found here are almost innumerable, and traverse the mountains in all directions. They, however, as a general rule, run east and west, dipping towards the south. So clearly are they defined upon the surface that they may sometimes be readily traced for miles without the aid of the magnetic needle, while all the phenomena of parallelism and intersection are seen in the light of day. Although Vetagrande, San Bernabé, and the Cantera are the principal mother veins, there are many others which are known to have produced large amounts of silver, especially the Tecolote and E-peranza spur, near the Vetagrande, which has been pierced by many shafts, upon which are 13 rich mines. Zacatecas may, however, be divided into three great groups of veins and their accompanying mines. In the first are found sulphureous veins of very considerable native silver, and very little argentiferous galena. Upon the Tecolote and E-peranza spur, there are found sulphureous galena with pyrites of sulphur in small cubes. To this division belongs the Cantera vein, and the veins that are found to the south of it. The second is composed principally of the sulphureous and of a little native silver. Considerable ruby silver is also met with, and sometimes a little argentiferous galena is occasionally found, pyrites of sulphur and splendid argentiferous crystals of sulphur, resting upon very hard green-stone, which is traversed by fine veins of quartz and calc-spar. Under this class come the San Bernabé and all the veins that traverse the great space included between the Cantera and Vetagrande. It is the most extensive, and embraces the greatest number of silver deposits, including the Tecolote Esperanza spur, above mentioned. The third and last consists of the sulphureous of silver, with sometimes the ruby silver dominating, and more or less native silver is found; argentiferous galena, fine and coarse grained, brown, black and yellow boulders, but not very abundant; some copper pyrites—all in quartz—horn-stone, some calc-spar and brown spar. To this may be referred the Vetagrande and all the veins to the north of it.

Rondanera, Malancho, Guadalupe, and Peregrina. Zumalde and Campa formerly worked the Rondanera and Guadalupe mines, and such were the enormous amount of silver taken from them that they purchased a shaft outside their limits, paying \$90,000 for it, and this because it made the drainage a little more convenient. This was in 1736. The mine of Rondanera was afterwards abandoned by them, but was reopened in 1748 by Ygnacio Arrieta, who from the Chalvera gallery took out in a single week more than \$600,000. In 1784 the curé, Rafael de las Piedras, took out of the same mine over \$300,000, and Antonio Tiasos took from the Peregrina gallery, in the same year, \$600,000. In different epochs the Rondanera has given four bonanzas; and the last one, taken out in a few weeks, gave a net profit of \$180,000.

The CANTERA vein is very near the city, and traverses the Bufa mountain, in a direction north 63° west. From this point it bends to the south, and is associated with the Quebradilla vein. The average thickness of the vein is 86 ft., but owing to the low value of the ores, which are very abundant, it has not been so much worked as the other principal veins. The general yield of the Cantera vein is from \$32 to \$40 per ton. The mines, however, have at times produced very largely, in one instance giving such wealth that one of the owners received the title of Conde de Santiago de la Laguna. He purchased enormous estates, and accumulated from his mining property a colossal fortune.

The QUEBRADILLA MINE is a spur of the Cantera vein, and here Nature appears to have been prodigal of her wealth; but the amount of water had always made it expensive working. In 1737 a company opened it, and derived a profit in a short time of \$260,000. The Bordas and Anas, after it had been abandoned, reopened it in 1775, and at immense cost for drainage. It produced them again, and in this epoch considerably more. Again abandoned, it was early in the century reopened by Fermín Apaza, who found it impossible to drain the mine with 15 malacates well served; and such was the flow of water that \$400,000 were spent in the drainage before a single stone was taken out. To give an idea of the extent to which this mine was worked at this epoch, it may be stated that there were employed 1416 men in the interior and 1135 in the exterior works. There were, moreover, 800 horses used for the machinery, and these consumed annually 500 fanegas of corn and 1000 tons of straw. The mine at that time was producing about 1000 tons of ore weekly, the total expenses for taking it out averaging \$20,000 per week.

I visited the QUEBRADILLA MINE a short time since. The main shaft is just beyond the south side of the Zacatecas park, and many of the galleries are under the city. Clothed in an old suit, I seated myself in a rope sling, and clinging to the main rope was gradually lowered into old mother earth. The shaft is about 600 ft. deep, and reaches to the floor of La Luz. The mine was, however, below this, to a depth of 900 ft. There is considerable water in the mine, all the galleries were dripping, but were drained to the main shaft, where a Cornish engine of 120-horse power effects the drainage. This engine cost on the ground \$120,000, and the cost per day of keeping it running is \$90. There are from 500 to 600 men employed on the interior and exterior works. The yield of the mine has averaged \$500,000 per year for the last 10 years, and has, after reimbursing the stockholders for the original outlays, paid them a net profit of \$160,000 annually. The extent of the mine is 2000 metres on the vein. In one of the lodes I noticed that the workmen were getting out ore that paid \$600 per ton; in others from \$30 to \$160 per ton. The average yield is \$80. Much ore is worked that pays but \$20 per ton. The average cost of all hacienda work for extracting the metal is from \$11 to \$12 per ton, including quicksilver. The ore of the Quebradilla is held in veins that run from 1 ft. to 36 ft. thick.

Near the Quebradilla is the CARNICERIA, 600 ft. deep. After reimbursing the original cost of opening, it is dividing \$48,000 per month among the stockholders. The San Rafael, on the same vein, is doing nearly as well. The San Martin Mine, in the suburbs of the city, now worked by Dr. G. M. Prevost an American, from Philadelphia, is paying at the same rate. It is one of the best mines in the whole district, and, undoubtedly, is the best managed. Its ores are very abundant, and average about \$55 per ton. The Vetagranda mines, under an English firm, are also yielding splendidly; and although they have been very much worked, and require a very large capital to develop the successfully, there is little doubt but they will prove as famous in the future as they have in the past.

On the San Bernabé vein the RONDANERA MINE is again being drained, and, from some of the upper galleries, such promising ores are found as indicate another great bonanza at no distant time.

Many mines have been worked in a small way, and drained by hide buckets, or malacates, until these were no longer available to the poor mine owners, who could not buy the necessary machinery for pumping. Among these are found the most promising of all the Zacatecas mines—the Esperanza, Tecolotes, San Dorio, El Tinto, San Gerolimo, all on the veins of Tecolotes—and the San Gonzalo, No Pesado, and San Cayetano, on the San Gonzalo vein. The ores from these mines are exceedingly rich, average \$120 per ton, and are abundant, while frequently large quantities have been taken out paying from \$60 to \$800 per ton. They have been worked to an average depth of 150 feet, every mine paying well to the depth that the miserable system of drainage would permit.

The following is the amount of silver produced at Zacatecas:

From 1548 to 1810	\$588,041,956
From 1810 to 1818	29,060,363
From 1818 to 1825	17,912,475
From 1825 to 1832	30,028,540

Total in 284 years \$656,043,355
To this may be added an average product since 1832 of \$4,000,000, which for 35 years makes 140,000,000

Making a total product of \$796,043,355

There are now some 12 mines actively worked within a radius of five miles from the Mint, and these are now producing about \$5,000,000 per year the coining of the Mint from these mines was, in the month of April of this year (1867), \$320,000. Were we to swell the above sum total by the amount which probably escaped coining, and has been smuggled out of the country since the mines were opened, we should find that the Zacatecas district has produced since 1548 at least \$1,000,000,000.

From a careful estimate by J. M. Bustamante, in 1829, and corrected and republished, in 1832, by C. de Berge, to whose work I am indebted for much of the above data, it is supposed that the average yield of all the Zacatecas ores since the discovery of the mines has been about 270 per cent. This, of course, includes all ores. Large quantities are constantly taken from the mines, yielding from \$300 to \$1,000 per ton. These are counted as the first-class ores. The ordinary ores, however, cause the reduction to the average above stated. It is here seen that the Zacatecas mines give twice the yield per ton averaged by the mines of the great Comstock vein. By official report Gould and Curry averaged for half of 1866, \$36.90 per ton; the Savage Mine, #42-38; Yellow Jacket, #32-51; Crown Point, #87-73; Hale and Norcross, #42-35. The average yield of the Comstock lode may be put down, according to official report, at \$40 per ton of all ores. While we in the United States are boasting of our celebrated mines, we have here in Mexico stowed away in a quiet nook a mining population of about 40,000 people, with labour at from 37 to 50 cents per day, producing at least five and a half millions of dollars annually from some dozen mines, no one of which is five miles from the Mint.

This is, probably, the richest mining district of the world at this time, and I doubt if there are any mines in existence which have shown a more constant return for the labour expended than these have. Like all other Mexican silver mines, they have been free from the exactions which the shifting politics of the country have placed upon other sources of wealth. Probably one-fourth of 1 per cent. of the products of the mines would pay for all the forced loans ever levied upon them. I can only account from this from the fact that the Government is disposed to exempt this great backbone of its finances from the crushing laws that deaden its commercial industry. Were this not the fact there would be no mines worked in Mexico to-day. One very successful mine owner of Zacatecas has told me that, for the 10 years he has been working them, he has never had a cent to pay from forced loans, or anything but the regular *derecho de quinto*—3½ per cent. on the product. It appears that from this and the export duty the Mexican Government has supported itself during its long and exhaustive wars, has paid for all its imports, and has, through its silver mines, preserved the national existence. There can be no greater commentary upon the value of the tangible silver wealth that lies in Mexican mineral veins, and of the development of which they would be susceptible under American energy and management.

THE OVENS GOLD QUARTZ MINES COMPANY (LIMITED).

Registered with Limited Liability, 25th April, 1867.
Capital £20,000, in 20,000 shares of £1 each, fully paid on allotment, of which shares 6000 are reserved as part payment to the vendor for the estate. 2500 are already applied for, and the remaining 21,500 will be allotted to the public according to priority of application.

CHAIRMAN.—The Hon. JAMES TOTHIN, Neville-street, Onslow-square, S.W.

BANKERS.—The London and County Bank, 21, Lombard-street, and town branches.

BROKER.—John Inchbald, Esq., 2, Copticall-court, City, and Stock Exchange.

OFFICES.—134, FENCHURCH STREET, CITY.

This company is formed for the purpose of working the famous estate, called "The Ovens," on the promontory known as The Ovens Gold Fields, jutting out five miles into the Atlantic Ocean, near Lunenburg Harbour, Nova Scotia. Thirty-three lodes of auriferous quartz have already been discovered on the property, yielding silver as well as gold, assays of which, by Messrs. Johnson and Matthey, Mr. Squires, and Mr. Robbins, prove the average yield to be greater than that of any other gold mines yet introduced to the public.

The gold mines of Nova Scotia are now making larger returns per man per annum than any other gold mine in the world, and the directors submit the following certificate of the Chief Commissioner of Mines of Nova Scotia, as the best evidence of the prospect of success of this company.

CERTIFICATE.—"I have no hesitation in saying, from my own knowledge and personal inspection, that one of the most inviting fields for the successful prosecution of gold quartz mining is 'The Ovens Mining District.' The gold found in the surface alluvium, and the fine specimens of gold-bearing quartz, which I purchased and sent to the Paris Exhibition, are conclusive evidence of the rich yield that will be realized from capital invested in the Ovens under careful management."

"P. S. HAMILTON, Chief Commissioner of Mines.

"Halifax, May 15, 1867."

Applications for prospectuses and shares may be made to the directors, bankers, and brokers. Reports, views of the estate, and a quantity of gold quartz, with assays of same, may be seen at the offices, 134, Fenchurch-street; also Mr. ROBBINS's, 372, Oxford-street, W.

ROBERT LIBBY AND SON, MINE AND SHAREDEALERS, &c., CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.

NICHOLLS, MATHEWS, AND CO., ENGINEERS, BEDFORD IRONWORKS, TAVISTOCK.

MANUFACTURERS OF STEAM ENGINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, made on the BEST and NEWEST PRINCIPLES. We beg more especially to call the attention of the public to the MANUFACTURE of our BOILERS, which have been tested by most of our leading engineers. PUMP WORK CASTINGS of EVERY DESCRIPTION, both of brass and iron. HAMMERED IRON and HEAVY SHAFTS of ANY SIZE. CHAINS made of the best iron, and warranted. MINERS' TOOLS and RAILWAY WORK of EVERY DESCRIPTION. ALL ORDERS FOR ABROAD RECEIVE their BEST ATTENTION.

NICHOLLS, MATHEWS, and Co. have had 20 years' experience in supplying machinery to foreign mines, and selecting experienced workmen to erect the same, where required.

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TIME for DRIVING ADIT REDUCED FIFTY to SEVENTY-FIVE per cent.

"These drilling engines are in daily use at the zinc mines of the Vieleille Montagne," &c.—Times, Dec. 24, 1866.

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MANILLA ROPE of SUPERIOR QUALITY, FIFTY PER CENT. STRONGER and THIRTY PER CENT. CHEAPER than Russian hemp rope.

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MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT BLASTING POWDER, ORDINARY GUNPOWDER, and WATERPROOF SAFETY BLASTING CARTRIDGES.

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It possesses the following advantages:—

ITS WEIGHT being about TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. LESS than ORDINARY GUNPOWDER, and EQUAL in STRENGTH, bulk for bulk, an IMPORTANT SAVING is EFFECTED on the score of CONSUMPTION.

It creates, on explosion, only about ONE-HALF AS MUCH SMOKE AS ORDINARY GUNPOWDER, and this smoke being of a lighter nature soon passes away, and an IMPORTANT SAVING is thus EFFECTED on the score of TIME.

It is ADAPTED to ANY CLIMATE, DOES NOT BECOME WASTEFUL by EXPOSURE to the ATMOSPHERE, is NOT MORE DANG

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EVERY FIRST PRIZE FOR FIXED AND PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES,

And they were also awarded the Prize of £15 for their

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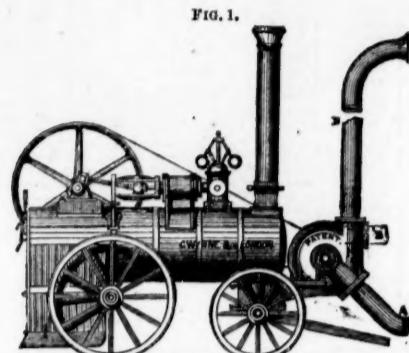


FIG. 1.—PATENT PORTABLE PUMPING ENGINE, WITH PUMP FIXED TO ENGINE; made in all sizes.

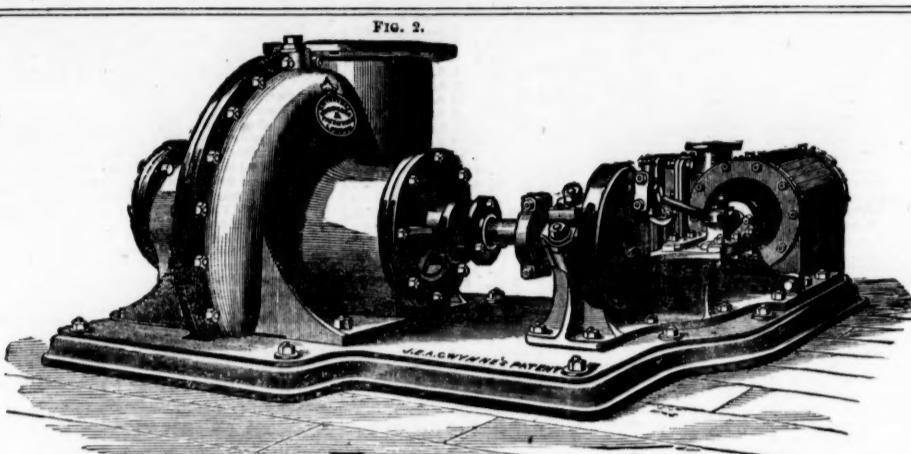


FIG. 2.—PATENT PUMPING ENGINE, FOR USE ON BOARD SHIP, COAL PITS, MINES, QUARRIES, DOCKS, CANALS, HARBOURS, &c.; FOR SURFACE CONDENSERS, PROPELLING, &c.

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G W Y N N E A N D C O. have erected the largest pumping machinery in the world; they have also erected more of all powers than any other firm in existence, and are prepared to contract that their machinery will do more work with less cost of coal than any other makers.

This Machinery has received the highest commendation; and thousands of Engineers, Manufacturers, and others using it, can be referred to in all parts of the world.

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They are largely in use; among others, by Paper Makers, Brewers, Distillers, Dyers, Chemists, Tanners, Sugar Refiners, Bleachers, Calico Printers, Carpet Manufacturers, Engineers and Iron Founders, Woollen Cloth and Blanket Manufacturers, Oil Refineries, Soap, Alkali, Salt, Starch, and Candy Works, Water Works, Lime and Cement Works, Quarries, Coal and Iron Mines, Sheep Washing, Public Baths, Cotton, Flax, Match, Felt, Oil and other Mills, &c. Numerous references to all the foregoing can be had on application.

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G W Y N N E and Co.'s Patent Centrifugal Pumps are in very extensive use, and some of the largest tracts of land in this country, and in Holland, Italy, Austria, France, Belgium, Denmark, Demerara, &c., are kept dry by their use.

FOR IRRIGATION WORKS

They have been selected for very extensive works in Egypt, Turkey, Spain, France, Belgium, India, Ceylon, Java, China, Australia, Porto Rico, &c., &c.

FOR EMPTYING DRY OR GRAVING DOCKS

They are quite unequalled, and will be found to excel all other arrangements, discharging a body of water in proportion to the lift, the speed of engines and power remaining the same; they will empty a dock in a shorter time and with much less power than is requisite with any other system. The first cost of machinery, the erection, and the foundations and brickwork necessary, are much less expensive than with any other arrangement, and the cost of keeping in thorough working order is merely nominal.

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It is rapidly making its way to all parts of the globe, being now in profitable use in California, Washoe, Lake Superior, Australia, Cuba, Chili, Brazil, and throughout the United States and England. Read extracts of testimonials:—

The Parys Mines Company, Parys Mines, near Bangor, June 6.—We have had one of your stone breakers in use during the last twelve months, and Captain Morcom reports most favourably as to its capabilities of crushing the materials to the required size, and its great economy in doing away with manual labour.

For the Parys Mining Company, JAMES WILLIAMS.

H. R. Marsden, Esq.

Ecton Emery Works, Manchester.—We have used Blake's patent stone breaker made by you, for the last 12 months, crushing emery, &c., and it has given every satisfaction. Some time after starting the machine a piece of the moveable jaw a about 20 lbs. weight, chilled cast-iron, broke off, and was crushed in the jaws of the machine to the size fixed for crushing the emery.

For H. R. Marsden, Esq. THOS. GOLDSWORTHY & SONS.

Alkali Works, near Wednesbury.—I at first thought the outlay too much for so simple an article, but now think it money well spent. WILLIAM HUNT.

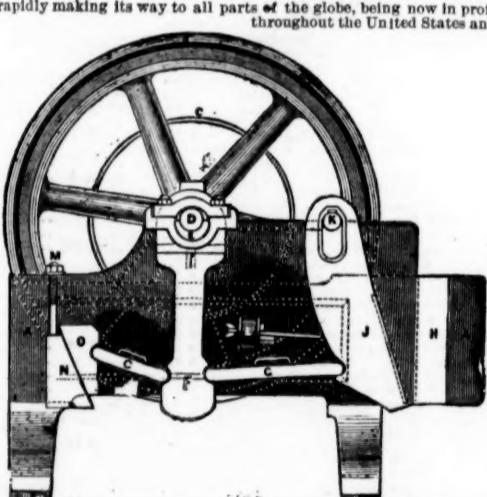
Welsh Gold Mining Company, Dolgelly.—The stone breaker does its work admirably, crushing the hardest stones and quartz. WM. DANIEL.

Our 15 by 7 in. machine has broken 4 tons of hard whinstone in 20 minutes, for fine road metal, free from dust. MESSRS. ORD AND MADISON, Stone and Lime Merchants, Darlington.

Kirkless Hall, near Wigan.—Each of my machines breaks from 100 to 120 tons of limestone or ore per day (10 hours), at a saving of 4d. per ton. JOHN LANCASTER.

Ovoca, Ireland.—My crusher does its work most satisfactorily. It will break 10 tons of the hardest copper ore stone per hour. WM. G. ROBERTS.

General Fremont's Mines, California.—The 15 by 7 in. machine effects a saving of the labour of about 30 men, or \$75 per day. The high estimation in which we hold your invention is shown by the fact that Mr. Park has just ordered third machine for this estate. SILAS WILLIAMS.



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ONLY MAKER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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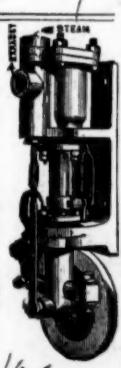
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LONDON, S.E.,

Engineers and Patentees of STEAM CRANES, DONKEY PUMPS, &c.,

PATENT DONKEY PUMPS.

Ram.....	1 1/2 in.....	2 in.....	2 1/4 in.....	2 1/2 in.....	2 3/4 in.....	3 in.....	3 1/4 in.....	3 1/2 in.....	3 1/2 in.....	4 in.....
*Gall. per hour.	230	400	680	850	1200	1500	2100	2500	3800	
Approx. H.P.	15	25	40	50	80	95	130	150	230	
Price	£10 5s	£12 10s	£15	£18	£21	£24	£26	£30	£35	

* Calculated at 200 strokes per minute.

BARROW LIFT,
HOISTING, OR DECK
ENGINES.

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BICKFORD'S PATENT SAFETY FUSE

Obtained the PRIZE MEDALS at the ROYAL EXHIBITION of 1851; at the INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of 1862, in London; at the IMPERIAL EXPOSITION held in Paris, in 1855; and at the INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, in Dublin, 1865.

BICKFORD, SMITH, AND CO. of TUCKINGMILL, CORNWALL, MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT SAFETY-FUSE, having been informed that the name of their firm has been attached to fuse not of their manufacture, beg to call the attention of the trade and public to the following announcement:—
EVERY COIL of FUSE MANUFACTURED by them has TWO SEPARATE THREADS PASSING THROUGH THE COLUMN OF GUNPOWDER, and BICKFORD, SMITH, AND CO. CLAIM SUCH TWO SEPARATE THREADS AS THEIR TRADE MARK.

T H O M A S T U R T O N A N D S O N S ,
MANUFACTURERS OF
CAST STEEL for PUNCHES, TAPS, and DIES,
TURNING TOOLS, CHISELS, &c.
CAST STEEL PISTON RODS, CHANK PINS, CONNECTING RODS, STRAIGHT and CRANK AXLES, SHAFTS and FORGINGS of EVERY DESCRIPTION.
DOUBLE SHEAR STEEL FILES MARKED BLISTER STEEL, SPRING STEEL, GERMAN STEEL, T. T U R T O N . N .
EDGE TOOLS MARKED WM. GREAVES & SON.

Locomotive Engine, Railway Carriage and Wagon Springs and Buffers.

SHEAF WORKS AND SPRING WORKS, SHEFFIELD.
LONDON WAREHOUSE, 25, QUEEN STREET, CANNON STREET, CITY, E.C.,
Where the largest stock of steel, files, tools, &c., may be selected from.

G U N C O T T O N
THOS PRENTICE & C^o.
PATENT
SAFETY
CUN COTTON
CARTRIDGES
& CHARGES
EMIT NO SMOKE
MAKES LITTLE RECOIL
82, GRACECHURCH ST. E.C.

Is the safest and STRONGEST EXPLOSIVE For every description of MINING and QUARRYING WORK.
A charge of any given size exerts six times the explosive force of gunpowder. The enormous power confined in a short length at the bottom of the hole allows of a much greater amount of work being placed before each blast, saving considerably in the labour of drilling.
Charges are made of every diameter required, the length varying with the diameter. Any number may be placed in a hole. Each charge is fully equal to one-fifth of a pound of powder.
MANUFACTURED BY THOMAS PRENTICE AND CO., 82, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON. WORKS, STOWMARKET. LONDON AGENT.—Mr. THORNE.

THE NEWCASTLE CHRONICLE AND NORTHERN COUNTIES ADVERTISER. (ESTABLISHED 1764.)
Offices, 42, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; 50, Howard-street, North Shields; 195, High-street, Sunderland.

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THE MINING SHARE LIST.

BRITISH DIVIDEND MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Business.	Total divs.	Per share.	Last paid.
1500 Alderley Edge, c, Cheshire*	10 0 0 ..	8 17 8 ..	0 5 0 ..	July 1867	10 10 0 ..	..	..
2000 Bottaclack, t, c, St. Just	91 5 0 ..	180 ..	..	..	458 15 0 ..	5 0 0 ..	May 1866
4000 Brookwood, l	1 11 0 ..	..	..	..	0 5 0 ..	0 2 6 ..	Sept. 1866
1000 Bronifoy, l, Cardigan*	12 0 0 ..	..	..	..	8 0 0 ..	0 0 0 ..	Aug. 1867
6400 Cashwell, l, Cumberland*	2 10 0 ..	..	..	..	0 1 6 ..	0 1 6 ..	Aug. 1866
916 Cargoli, s-l, Newlyn	18 5 7 ..	..	12 14 ..	..	13 15 0 ..	1 0 0 ..	Feb. 1866
1867 Cwm Eryd, l, Cardiganshire*	7 10 0 ..	..	..	..	23 18 0 ..	1 0 0 ..	June 1867
1200 Derwent Mine, s-l, Durham	300 0 0 ..	..	..	..	379 10 0 ..	3 0 0 ..	June 1867
1024 Devon Gt. Consols, c, Tavistock*	1 0 0 ..	410 ..	400 420 ..	..	1067 0 0 ..	7 0 0 ..	July 1867
358 Dolecoth, c, t, Camborne	128 17 6 ..	..	..	..	881 10 0 ..	3 0 0 ..	Aug. 1867
6144 East Cadron, c, St. Cleer	2 14 6 ..	5 8 ..	4 8 5 8 ..	..	14 11 0 ..	2 0 0 ..	July 1867
300 East Darren, l, Cardiganshire	32 0 0 ..	..	..	..	146 10 0 ..	2 0 0 ..	July 1867
128 East Pool, t, c, Pool, Illogan	24 5 0 ..	..	..	..	407 10 0 ..	5 0 0 ..	July 1867
5000 East Rosewarne, c, t, Gwinear	2 15 0 ..	..	..	..	15 10 0 ..	5 0 0 ..	July 1867
1900 East Wheal Lovell, t, Wendron	3 9 0 ..	7 ..	6 4 6 2 ..	..	10 6 0 ..	0 1 6 ..	Aug. 1867
2800 Foxdale, l, Isle of Man*	25 0 0 ..	..	..	..	70 10 0 ..	0 10 0 ..	June 1867
5000 Frank Mills, t, Christow	3 18 6 ..	..	..	..	3 5 6 ..	0 5 0 ..	Feb. 1866
5000 Great Laxey, l, Isle of Man*	4 0 0 ..	18 ..	18 19 ..	..	6 15 0 ..	0 10 0 ..	June 1867
5908 Great Wheal Vor, t, c, Helston*	40 0 0 ..	18 ..	16 8 17 8 ..	..	11 13 0 ..	0 7 6 ..	June 1867
1024 Herodfoot, l, near Liskeard	8 10 0 ..	33 ..	35 37 ..	..	42 0 0 ..	1 10 0 ..	June 1867
6000 Hindston Down, c, t	5 10 6 ..	..	..	..	10 0 0 ..	0 5 0 ..	April 1866
400 Liebherr, l, Cardiganshire	18 10 0 ..	..	..	..	492 10 0 ..	3 0 0 ..	May 1867
9000 Marke Valley, c, Cadron	4 10 6 ..	5 ..	4 8 5 8 ..	..	8 0 0 ..	0 3 0 ..	July 1867
3000 Minera Boundary, l, Wrexham*	1 0 0 ..	..	..	..	18 0 0 ..	0 3 0 ..	Mar. 1866
1800 Minera Mining Co., l, Wrexham*	25 0 0 ..	180 ..	170 180 ..	..	218 18 0 ..	6 5 0 ..	Aug. 1867
2000 Mining Co. of Ireland, c, t, etc.	7 0 0 ..	..	17 8 18 ..	..	—	0 5 0 ..	July 1867
4000 Mwyndy Iron Ore*	3 5 0 ..	..	..	..	6 6 0 ..	0 2 6 ..	Mar. 1866
200 Prince Mines, c, Anglesey*	50 0 0 ..	..	..	..	157 10 0 ..	5 0 0 ..	Jan. 1867
12800 Prince of Wales, t, Calstock	0 19 6 ..	82 ..	44s. 46s.	..	0 2 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	Aug. 1867
6000 Prosper United, t, c, St. Hilary	8 14 0 ..	..	..	..	0 5 0 ..	0 5 0 ..	Feb. 1867
1120 Providence, t, Uy Leinant	10 6 7 ..	28 ..	27 29 ..	..	82 17 6 ..	0 10 0 ..	May 1867
512 South Cadron, c, St. Cleer	5 8 0 ..	360 ..	360 370 ..	..	562 10 0 ..	6 0 0 ..	July 1867
6000 South Darren, l, *	3 6 6 ..	..	..	..	0 7 1 ..	0 1 6 ..	July 1867
508 Summer Hill, Mold	3 18 6 ..	..	..	..	0 10 0 ..	0 5 0 ..	July 1867
6000 Tincroft, c, t, Pool, Illogan	9 0 0 ..	12 12 ..	12 13 ..	..	18 11 0 ..	0 5 0 ..	Jan. 1867
2000 Tiverton Cons., t, Helston	11 10 0 ..	..	..	..	11 5 0 ..	0 5 0 ..	June 1867
3000 W. Chiverton, t, Perranporth	10 0 0 ..	68 ..	68 69 ..	..	21 7 6 ..	2 0 0 ..	Aug. 1867
512 Wheat Basset, Illogan	47 10 0 ..	150 ..	145 180 ..	..	476 10 0 ..	3 10 0 ..	Aug. 1867
1024 Wheat Friendship, c, Tavistock	5 2 6 ..	70 ..	65 70 ..	..	625 0 0 ..	2 0 0 ..	Aug. 1867
4205 Wheat Kitry, t, St. Agnes	5 4 6 ..	..	..	..	3 1 0 ..	0 2 0 ..	Feb. 1867
1024 Wheat Manx Ann, t, Menheniot	8 0 0 ..	15 ..	15 16 ..	..	61 15 0 ..	0 15 0 ..	June 1867
2000 Wheat Rose, c, Scarier	38 10 0 ..	110 ..	105 110 ..	..	246 15 0 ..	2 10 0 ..	Aug. 1867
1040 Wheat Trelewain, t, Camborne	8 17 0 ..	9 ..	..	..	54 14 6 ..	0 4 0 ..	June 1867
3000 Whitewell Down, Clitheroe	0 5 0 ..	..	..	..	0 10 0 ..	0 10 0 ..	July 1867
17000 Wicklow, t, Wicklow	2 10 0 ..	..	20 18 ..	..	46 15 0 ..	1 0 0 ..	April, 1867

FOREIGN DIVIDEND MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Bus. done.	Last Coll.	
20000 Australian, c, South Australia*	7 7 6 ..	—	..	0 1 0 ..	..
15000 Cape Copper Mining*	7 0 0 ..	8 ..	6 1 7 ..	..	Aug. 1867	
100000 Don Pedro No. del Rey, Brazil**	0 14 0 ..	214 ..	214 23 8 ..	..	0 4 3 ..	0 1 6 ..
25000 Fortuna, t, Spain*	2 0 0 ..	..	..	..	1 5 4 ..	0 2 0 ..
20000 Gen. Mining Assoc., Nova Scotia	20 0 0 ..	18 ..	..	..	23 10 0 ..	0 15 0 ..
10000 Gonnosa, l, * [5000 £ pd., 5000 £ pd.]	—	..	..	10 per cent.	..	July 1867
15000 Linares, t, Spain*	3 0 0 ..	1 ..	..	..	11 6 4 ..	0 5 0 ..
40000 Panuello, c*	3 0 0 ..	2 1/2 ..	..	..	10 per cent.	Yearly
30000 Pestarena, g**	2 10 0 ..	23 4 ..	21 2 23 4 ..	..	0 2 6 ..	0 2 6 ..
10000 Pontigband, t, France	20 0 0 ..	..	..	..	4 14 3 ..	0 11 0 ..
100000 Port Phillip, g, Clunet	1 0 0 ..	1 1/2 ..	1 1/2 ..	..	0 17 6 ..	0 1 0 ..
120000 Scottish Australian Mining Co.	1 0 0 ..	1 1/8 ..	7/8 1 1/8 ..	..	10 0 0 ..	0 1 0 ..
11000 St. John del Rey, Brazil*	15 0 0 ..	58 ..	60 62 ..	..	77 5 0 ..	4 10 0 ..
5000 Victoria (London) [25000 £ pd., 25000 £ pd., 12s. 6d. pd.]	—	..	..	..	0 9 0 ..	0 1 0 ..
40000 West Canada Mining Company*	1 0 0 ..	..	..	..	10 6 0 ..	0 2 6 ..

NON-DIVIDEND FOREIGN MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Pr.	Bus. done.	Last Coll.
25000 Alamillos, l, Spain*	2 0 0 ..	1 ..	..	..	Fully pd.
100000 Anglo-Brazilian, g*	0 10 0 ..	..	3/4 ..	1/2 ..	..
12500 Anglo-Italian, g*	0 5 0 ..	..	..	..	Nov. 1866
40000 Brittany Silver-Lead Mines, France* [18750 £ pd.]	—	..	..	..	May 1867
2464 Burra Burra, c, South Australia	5 0 0 ..	31 1/2 ..	..	..	..
25000 Capula, s, Mexico*	1 12 0 ..	..	..	..	Aug. 1866
30000 Chontales, g, s, Nicaragua*	4 0 0 ..	43 ..	5 1/2 5 5 ..	..	June 1867
12000 Cobre Copper Company, c, Cuba*	43 10 0 ..	..	..	..	May 1867
10000 Copiapo Mining Company, Chile*	16 10 0 ..	..	..	..	Dec. 1866
10000 Copiapo Smelting, Chile*	10 0 0 ..	..	..	..	April 1866
30000 Copper Miners' Co. of South Australia* [150 £100 pd., 150 £70 pd.]	—	..	..	..	Nov. 1866
15000 El Chico Silver Mining and Reduction Company*	5 0 0 ..	..	..	..	June 1867
8000 English and Canadian Mining Company*	5 0 0 ..	..	..	..	Fully pd.
40000 Fortune Copper Mining Co. of Western Australia	2 0 0 ..	..	..	..	Aug. 1867
50000 Frontino and Bolivia, g, New Granada*	1 15 0 0 ..	98 ..	7s. 9s.	..	June 1867
10000 Great Barrier Land, Mining, &c., New Zealand	5 0 0 ..	..	..	..	Fully pd.
80000 Great Northern, c, South Australia*	1 11 6 6 ..	..	..	..	Aug. 1867
68000 Kapunda Mining Co., Australia*	1 0 0 0 ..	3/2 ..	..	..	Sept. 1867
7927 Lusitanian (Portugal)*	3 0 0 ..	..	..	..	..
83000 Maricuia	0 12 6 ..	..	..	..	Jan. 1867
12500 Nerbudda Coal and Iron* [6000 £ pd., 6500 £ pd.]	3 10 0 ..				